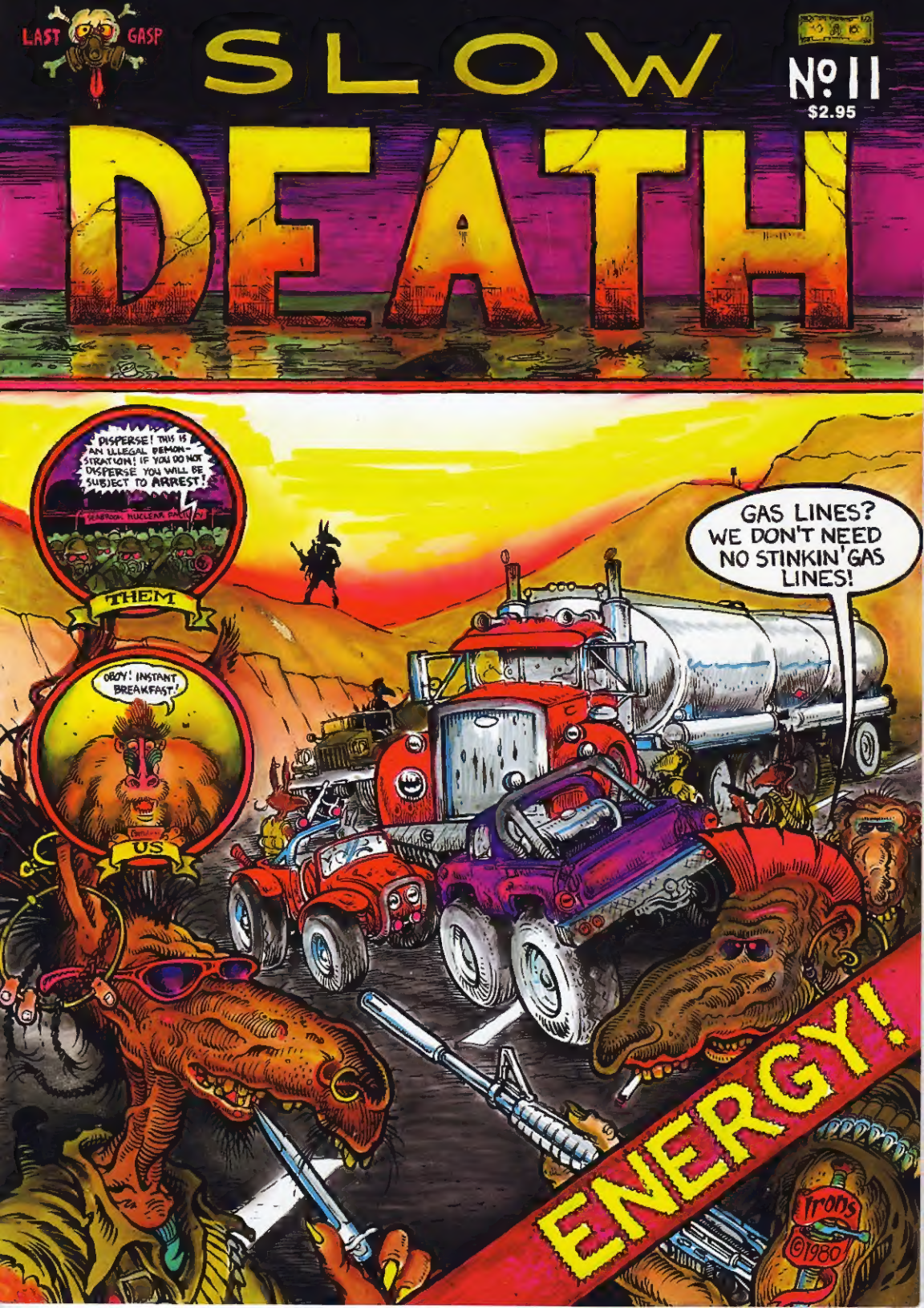

LAST GASP
SLOW
DEATH
No 11
$2.95
DISPERSE! THIS IS AN ILLEGAL DEMONSTRATION! IF YOU DO NOT DISPERSE YOU WILL BE SUBJECT TO ARREST!
THEM
OBOY! INSTANT BREAKFAST!
US
GAS LINES? WE DON'T NEED NO STINKIN' GAS LINES!
ENERGY!
Irons
©1980

SLOW DEATH #11 ©1992 Ronald E. Turner. PUBLISHED BY LAST GASP ECO-FUNNIES. Front Cover, Inside Front Cover, Cheers, Darnold Duck ©1992 Greg Irons, Cold Snap ©1992 Bryan Talbot & Alan Moore, Ouverture to Armageddon! ©1992 Warren Greenwood, Conservation ©1992 Peter Sinclair, Super Cosmic Comix Creator Comix ©1992 Wally Wood, The Big Catch ©1992 John Edgar, Panic in Year Zilch ©1992 Graham Manley, The Planet Earth's Tropical Rain Forests ©1992 R. Waldmire, Making Money ©1992 Vince Ballard, Greg's Last Tattoo ©1992 Tom Veitch.. Cover Colorist: Mary Kay Mitchell. Helpful Archivist: Mark Irons. Editor-in-Chief:R.E.Turner. Editorial Assistant: E. Gilbert.

Additional Copies of this book $5.00 postpaid Catalog of Comix $2.00 Include age statement with order. Send to **Last Gasp P.O. Box 410067 San Francisco, Ca., 94141-0067**. Dealers are instructed not to sell to minors. Any similarity with actual living characters is purely coincidental. *ISBN 0-86719-145-7*

Cartooning is a dangerous art form, like dancing on a freeway naked...or stepping out in front of a bus.

The communication between cartoon art and its audience is powerfully direct. For this reason, the medium puts an absolute demand for honesty on its practitioners. A *poseur* might get by as a poet, a gallery artist, or a rock star. But a *phony* cartoonist will never be mistaken for a *great* cartoonist.

Robert Crumb realized the total vulnerability of his chosen craft, and turned that vulnerability into an asset by inventing the "confessional" comic strip. A whole genre has grown out of Crumb's autobiographical explorations, and one can safely predict that "confessional" comics will be with us for a long long time.

Confessional comics were probably not Greg Irons' natural genre. As a young firebrand on the San Francisco/Berkeley scene in the late sixties and early seventies, his greatest strengths were political satire and ecological outrage (with horror and science-fiction/fantasy close behind). But by the mid-seventies, unhappy events in his own life turned him inward, toward satirical self-examination. He began a series of autobiographical strips starring Gregor, "the purple-assed babboon." In these stories Greg seemed to be trying to resolve a major identity crisis, as he mocked himself mercilessly.

I'm told that the two stories printed here for the first time are Greg's last finished comic work before he was killed by a bus in Bangkok, Thailand, in November 1984. (Another story, his final "GI/TV" collaboration, had reached rough pencils by the time of his death.)

These two stories are in the confessional genre Greg had come to favor. They are satirical looks at events in his own life.

In the first, Greg depicts himself as "Darnold Duck", the character from the old Kurtzmann/ Elder Disney parody. Like his "Darnold", Greg really did buy a big old gaff-rigged sloop which he

envisioned, in his fantasies, would give him safe passage out of the coming apocalypse. The story pretty much reflects, in a wildly exaggerated way, the outcome of Greg schemes.

The second story, starring the infamous Gregor, is about Greg's love-hate relationship with a vintage Volkswagen...and his subsequent bicycle accident, in which his face was torn open by a windshield wiper.

The panel where the machete comes down on Gregor's snout -- "Here comes Mr. Karma."-- seems scarily prophetic of the terrible event that terminated Greg's life at age 37.

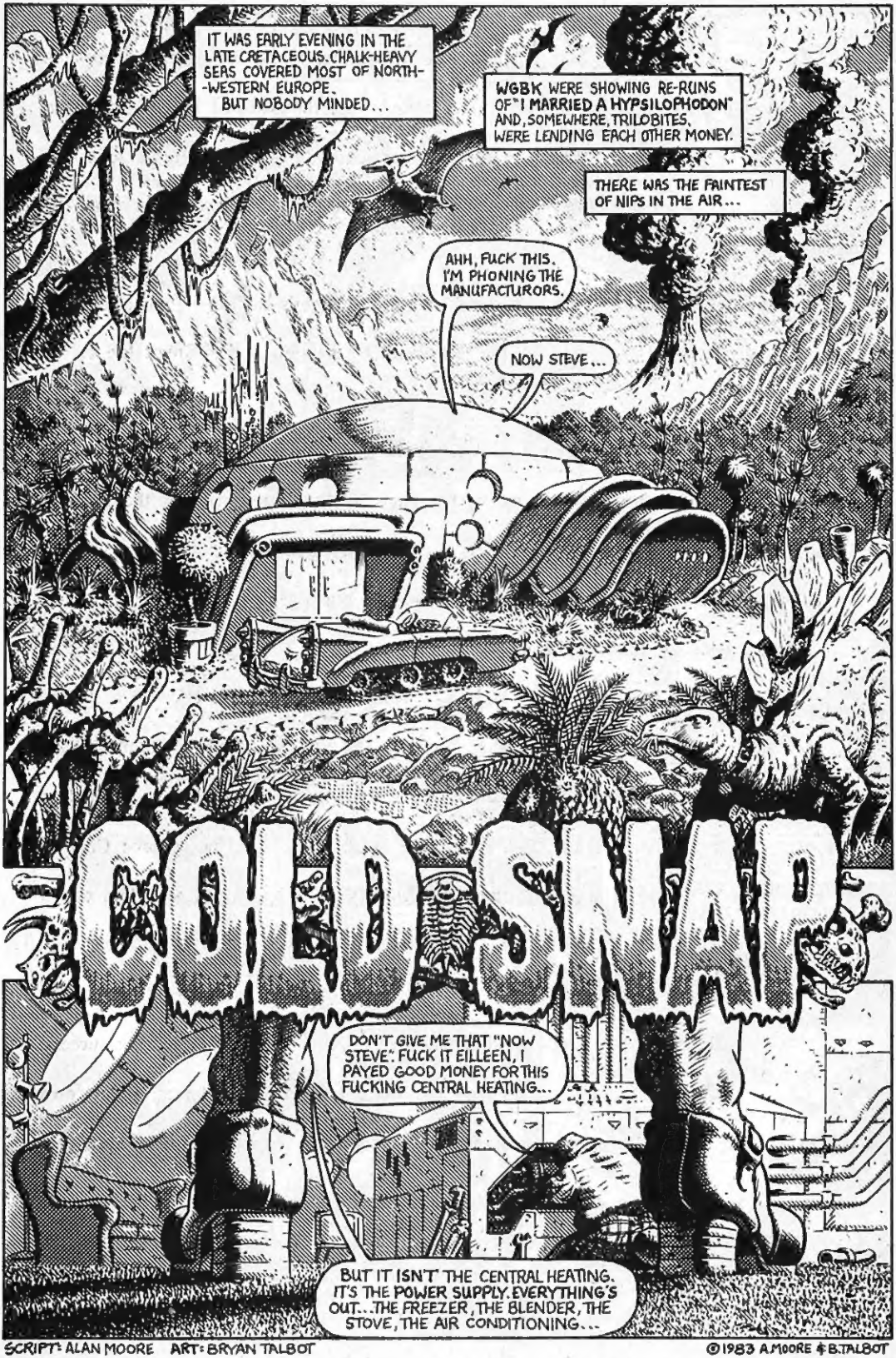
I'm proud to say that Greg Irons was my friend. I'm proud of the outrageous comics we did together. My only regret is that he has gone largely unrecognized by the world at large. It always seemed to me that his was a talent that could and should bloom into the stature of a Dürer, a Hogarth, or even a Goya. The man was a genius, and an artist who had only begun to tap the resources at his disposal.

Greg made a number of choices, based on honesty, that had the effect of curtailing his career as a cartoonist. He, like Crumb, was invited to sell his vision to Ralph Bakshi. Greg turned Bakshi down. He, like most of the underground artists, was invited to contribute his work free-of-charge to the "Rolling Stone History of Underground Comix". Greg saw a rip-off, and refused, and the power-brokers at Rolling Stone aced him out of the book (together with S. Clay Wilson, who also refused.)

Greg made many decisions like that, decisions of moral principle, decisions not to sell out to the exploitative media establishment, decisions that cost him a wider success.

But some of us have not forgotten Greg Irons. How could we forget? In my own life, his stands as one of the most intense -- and honest -- relationships I ever had.

Tom Veitch
February 15, 1991


IT WAS EARLY EVENING IN THE LATE CRETACEOUS. CHALK-HEAVY SEAS COVERED MOST OF NORTH--WESTERN EUROPE. BUT NOBODY MINDED...
WGBK WERE SHOWING RE-RUNS OF "I MARRIED A HYPSILOPHODON" AND, SOMEWHERE, TRILOBITES, WERE LENDING EACH OTHER MONEY.
THERE WAS THE FAINTEST OF NIPS IN THE AIR...
AHH, FUCK THIS. I'M PHONING THE MANUFACTURORS.
NOW STEVE...
COLD SNAP
DON'T GIVE ME THAT "NOW STEVE". FUCK IT EILLEEN, I PAYED GOOD MONEY FOR THIS FUCKING CENTRAL HEATING...
BUT IT ISN'T THE CENTRAL HEATING. IT'S THE POWER SUPPLY. EVERYTHING'S OUT...THE FREEZER, THE BLENDER, THE STOVE, THE AIR CONDITIONING...

SCRIPT: ALAN MOORE ART: BRYAN TALBOT

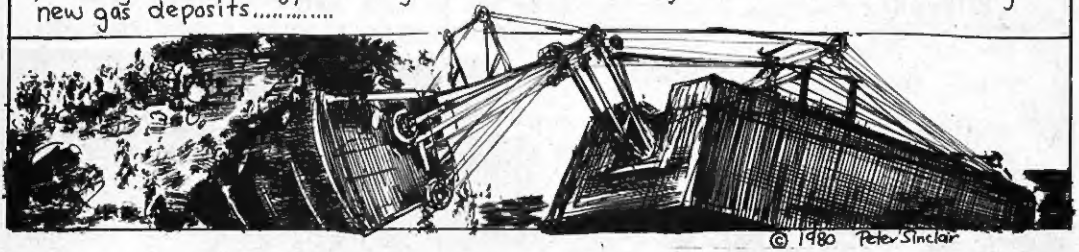
©1983 A.MOORE & B.TALBOT

WELL, DOESN'T THAT JUST PROVE WHAT I'VE ALWAYS SAID?
WE SHOULD NEVER HAVE ELECTED A LESOTHOSAURUS. I MEAN... WHAT DO WE KNOW ABOUT HIM? NOTHING!
OH DEAR.
CARNOSAUR HERALD
"END OF RECESSION IN SIGHT"
LOOK, THAT WAS THE DOOR. I'D BETTER GO AND SEE...
...WORK YOURSELF TO FUCKING DEATH... WHAT DO YOU GET?
KLAK
OH, ROGER. COME IN.
HELLO EILLEEN.
IT'S ROGER, STEVE...
HI, STEVE. LISTEN, DO YOU STILL HAVE THAT OLD PUSH-MOWER? THE HOVER'S ON THE FRITZ AND IF I DON'T GET THE LAWN DONE MARION'LL GO FUCKING CRAZY.
UHH... EXCUSE MY CERATOSAURIAN THERE, EILLEEN.
THAT OLD MOWER? HMMM. SHIT. I DON'T KNOW. I'LL TAKE A LOOK IN A MINUTE OR TWO.
WANNA BEER?
YEAH. SAY, IS IT COLD IN HERE?
YEAH. POWER'S OFF. PROBABLY WHY YOUR HOVER AIN'T WORKING. YOU SEEN ALL THIS ENERGY CRISIS SHIT IN THE PAPER?
HERE'S YOUR BEER.
THANKS...

MMF. S'GOOD.
YEAH. I SEEN IT. IT'S SHIT. YOU'RE RIGHT.
Y'KNOW, IT'S THE ELECTRICAL COMPANIES DOIN' THIS... HOLDIN' OUT FOR ANOTHER UNIT COST INCREASE.
FUCK 'EM.
YEAH. AND THEIR FUCKIN' CRISIS.
KLINK
WELL, I DON'T KNOW. I WAS TALKING TO ALICE'S GIRL—THE ONE WHO'S IN COLLEGE—AND SHE SAYS THAT WE'RE USING UP OUR RESOURCES TOO FAST.
OH YEAH? WHAT THE HELL DOES SHE KNOW? SHE'S A FUCKING LESBIAN!
WHAT, THAT LITTLE PACHYCEPHALOSAURUS WE SAW LAST WEEK? A LESBIAN? REALLY?
STEVE, DIANE IS NOT A LESBIAN!
LISTEN, I DON'T GIVE A FUCK WHAT SHE IS. I JUST DON'T WANNA HAVE TO LISTEN TO THIS RESOURCES SHIT. WHAT ABOUT ALL OUR OTHER RESOURCES? WHAT ABOUT FOSSIL FUELS?
OH STEVE, GIMME A BREAK! THIS IS THE CRETACEOUS! THERE AREN'T ANY FOSSIL FUELS YET!
HM.
WELL, I STILL SAY SHE'S A LESBIAN.
LET'S GO AND FIND THAT MOWER.
THANKS FOR THE BEER, EILLEEN.
'WELCOME.
URP!

I THINK I SAW IT OUT AROUND HERE SOMEPLACE...
YEAH.
JESUS. YOU EVER REMEMBER A WINTER LIKE THIS, STEVE?
WELL, FUCK. THE WINTER OF '48 WASN'T ANY CAKEWALK. AND '52. '52 WAS BAD TOO.
OH YEAH. '52. I REMEMBER THAT. YEAH. THAT WAS BAD.
YEAH. WELL, THAT'S MY POINT. '52 WAS THE FUCKIN' PITS OF THE WORLD. AND YET HERE WE ARE, STILL MUDDLIN' THROUGH...
WHERE THE FUCK DID I PUT THAT FUCKING THING?
IS THIS IT?
AH FUCK.
SHIT. I'M SORRY ROG...
HEY, LOOK. DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT. IT'S ONLY MY FUCKING LAWN, RIGHT?
I MEAN... IT'S NOT THE END OF THE FUCKING WORLD...
LATER, THE POWER CAME BACK ON FOR AN HOUR AND EILEEN HOOVERED THE KIDS' ROOM AND STEVE WATCHED "NODOSAURUS PATROL". IT WAS EARLY EVENING IN THE LATE CRETACEOUS...
End.

When most people think about new resources of energy, they think of "producing" more energy, mining more coal, drilling for more oil, or finding new gas deposits.....



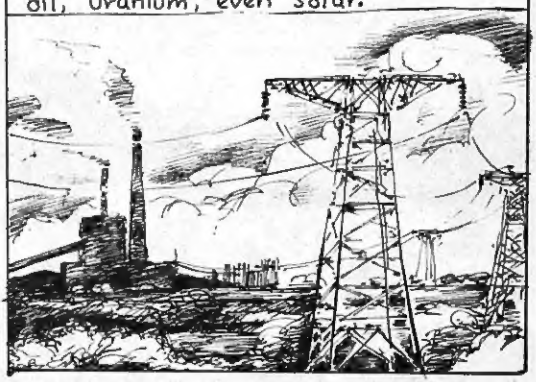
© 1980 Peter Sinclair

CONSERVATION

our best new energy resource

But remember, none of these processes "produce" energy. The energy of coal, for instance, is stored solar power from ancient forests.....

.... all man does is find it and convert it to a more useful form. The same is true for all our sources of energy, oil, uranium, even solar.



In this country, huge amounts of energy pass out of our windows, walls, chimnies and exhaust pipes each day, in fact almost half of what we use is lost....

If we could tap this enormous flow of energy, and convert it to a more useful form, it would be as valuable as many, many, new oil fields.

This is the idea of Energy Efficiency.

After all, what do we want from our energy supply, more and more Killowatts?

No, what we want is lighting, warmth, power for appliances. In short, not necessarily more energy, but more energy services.

We can provide energy services with much less consumption, and only very simple changes are needed to cut down our energy needs.

The idea that low energy living must be difficult and uncomfortable is mistaken. Most of the changes that need to be made are simple, inexpensive, and have minimal impact upon daily life styles.

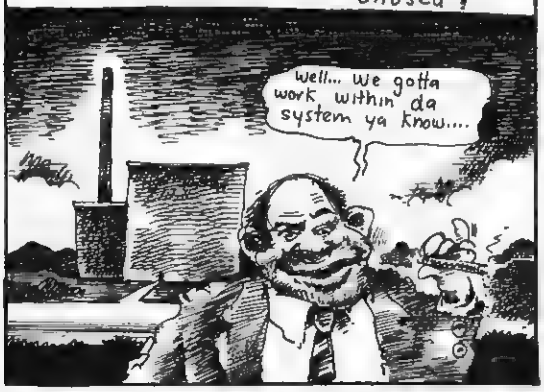
For instance, the proper use of windowshades, to keep heat out in summer and inside in winter, could save our country's homeowners the equivalent of 160 million barrels of oil per year!

At Boston University, a switch to energy saving shower heads produced a savings of 1600 dollars per month in hot water bills!

In Toronto, the new 20 story headquarters of Ontario Hydro uses no energy inputs whatsoever, other than the heat from its lights, office machines, and human occupants!

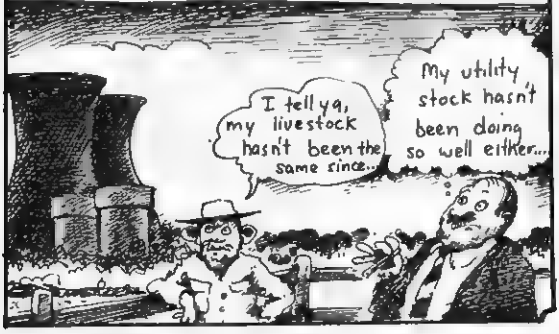
A utility found that with a conservation program for their customers, they could increase their own profits and serve more customers with the same amount of fuel...

In America, utility laws and rate structures have been designed to encourage growth in demand. This may have been a good idea once, but no longer. Nowadays it actually pays for utilities to build generating plants that stand idle and unused!



Nowadays this is beginning to change. We have reached the point of diminishing returns with the old ways.... and people are starting to wonder if this is the best way to continue.....

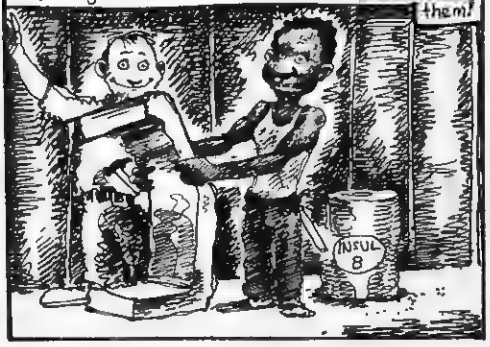
The philosophy that "bigger is better" has not always been true. A big project that goes astray is a big headache for everyone. Just look at the fiasco of Three Mile Island.....



General Public Utilities, which owns 3 mile Island, has reviewed many of its old practices, and decided that it could meet its demand with a conservation program far more cheaply than with building new power plants.

This is important! In many states, utility bills are so high that the state gives aid to help the poor and elderly pay them. But this money doesn't really help the poor, it goes straight to the utility... actually subsidizing their high costs!

What if this money were spent on insulation programs, which would permanently lower peoples energy bills, cut our national oil consumption and give jobs to workers who need them?



There are other tremendous opportunities for savings. For instance, many large industrial sites produce their own steam and electricity, sometimes more than they need. But the law says only utilities are allowed to sell electricity.....

Isn't it wasteful to build your own powerplant when the utility has one right over there?
Why pay them? We can produce our own power much cheaper!
UNITED WIDGET

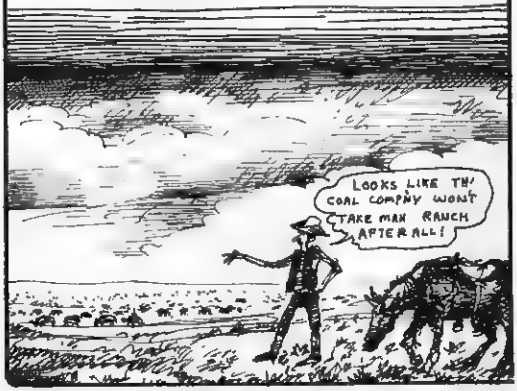
What if the rules were changed to allow anyone to sell power? Wouldn't the increased competition and supply lower our electrical rates? Public Service Commissions could make these changes and have done so in California.....

You are hereby ordered to build no new plants if you can purchase power more cheaply elsewhere!
Holy smokes! United Widget can produce power for half of what we can!
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

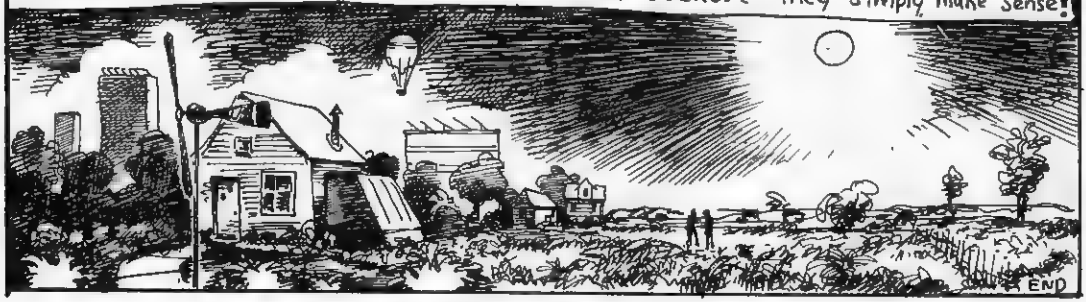
In California, bringing this until now untapped capacity on line is expected to produce new electricity equivalent to 6 huge nuclear plants. Nationwide — we could avoid the construction of dozens, even hundreds, of large power facilities.

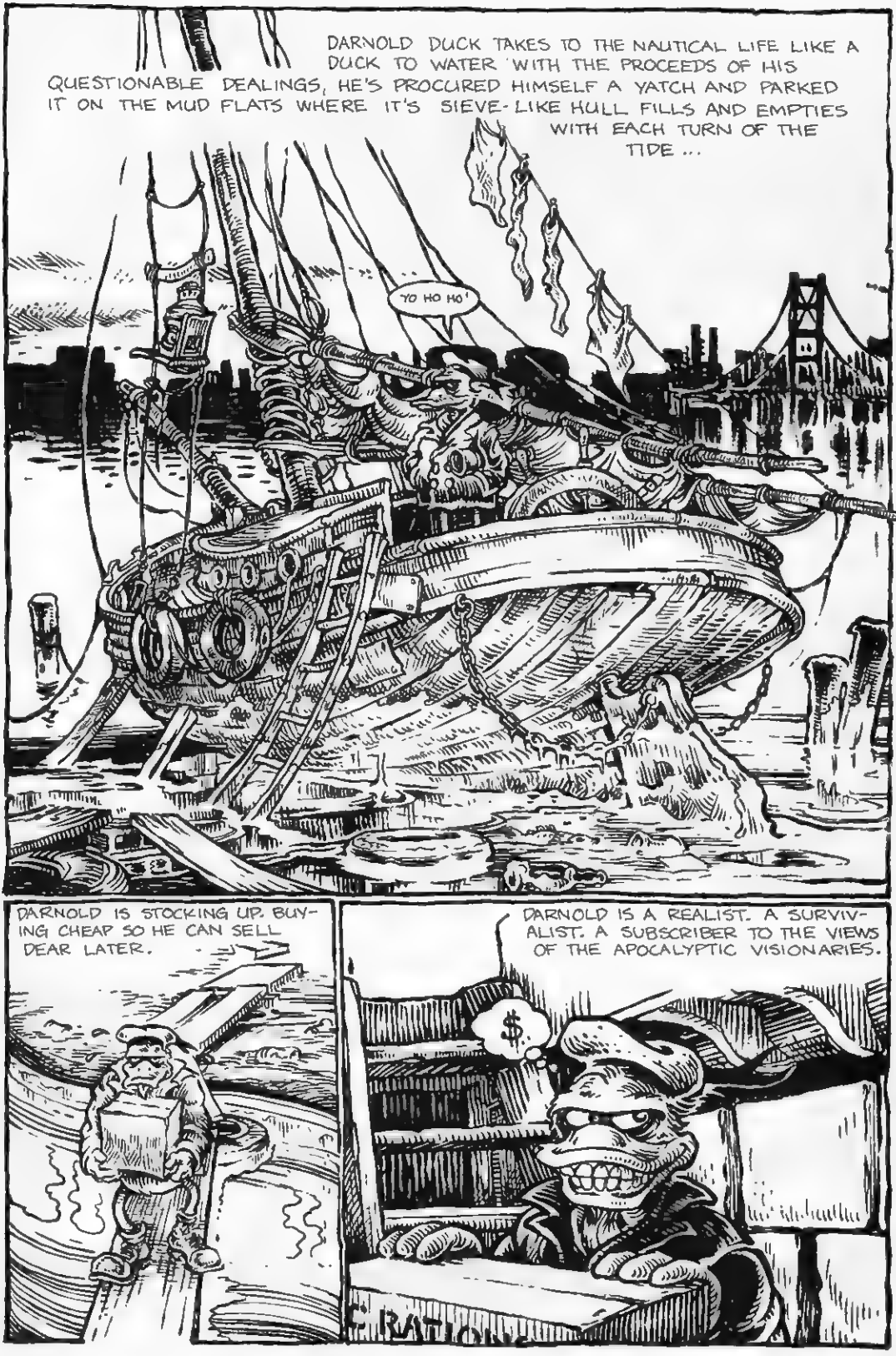
...and we're making enough money selling our excess electricity, that we can now hire 100 new workers!
RIGHT Boss!
UNITED WIDGET

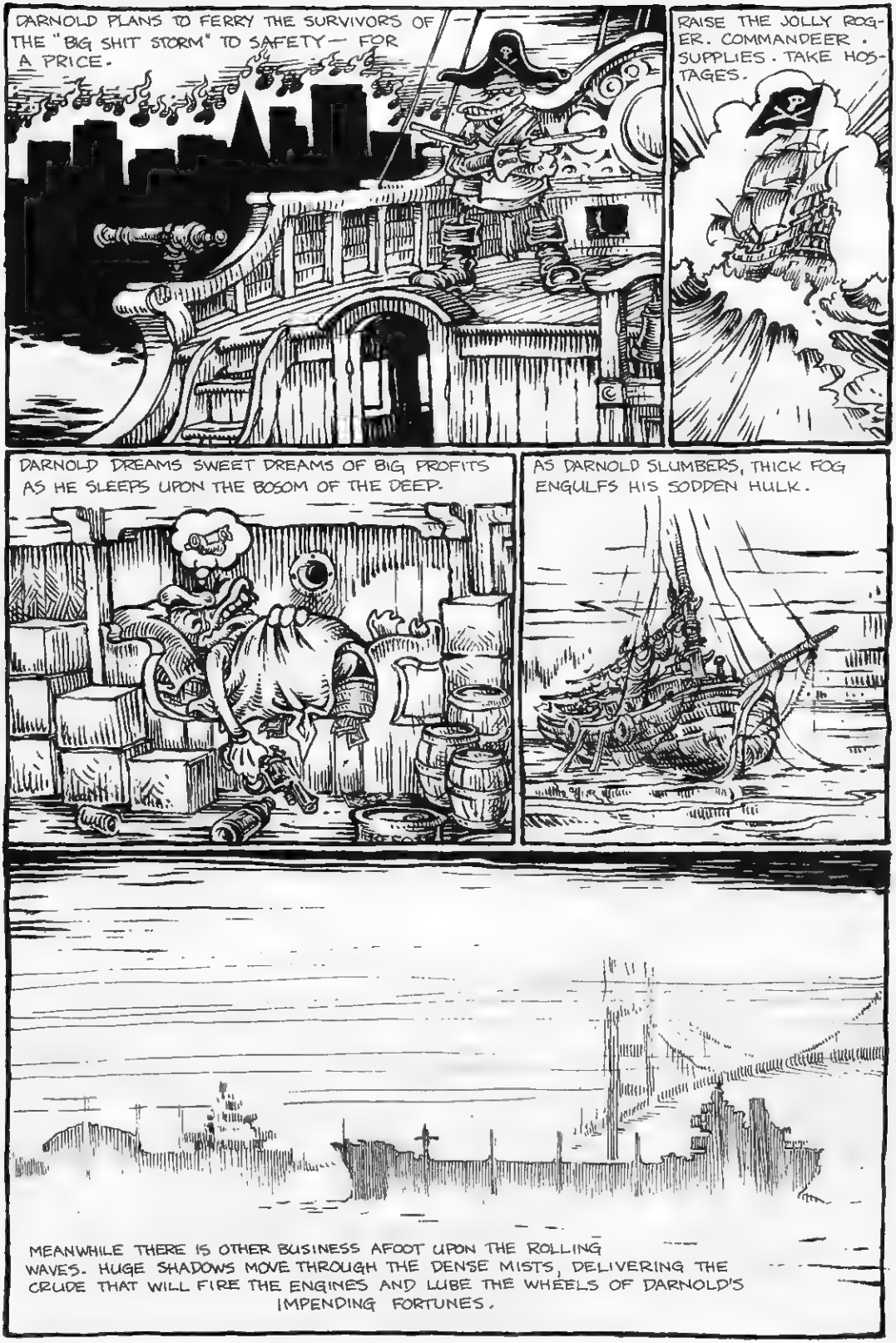
Since we would be increasing our energy production with little increase in fuel consumption — we could avoid the environmental damage of developing new supplies of coal or uranium....

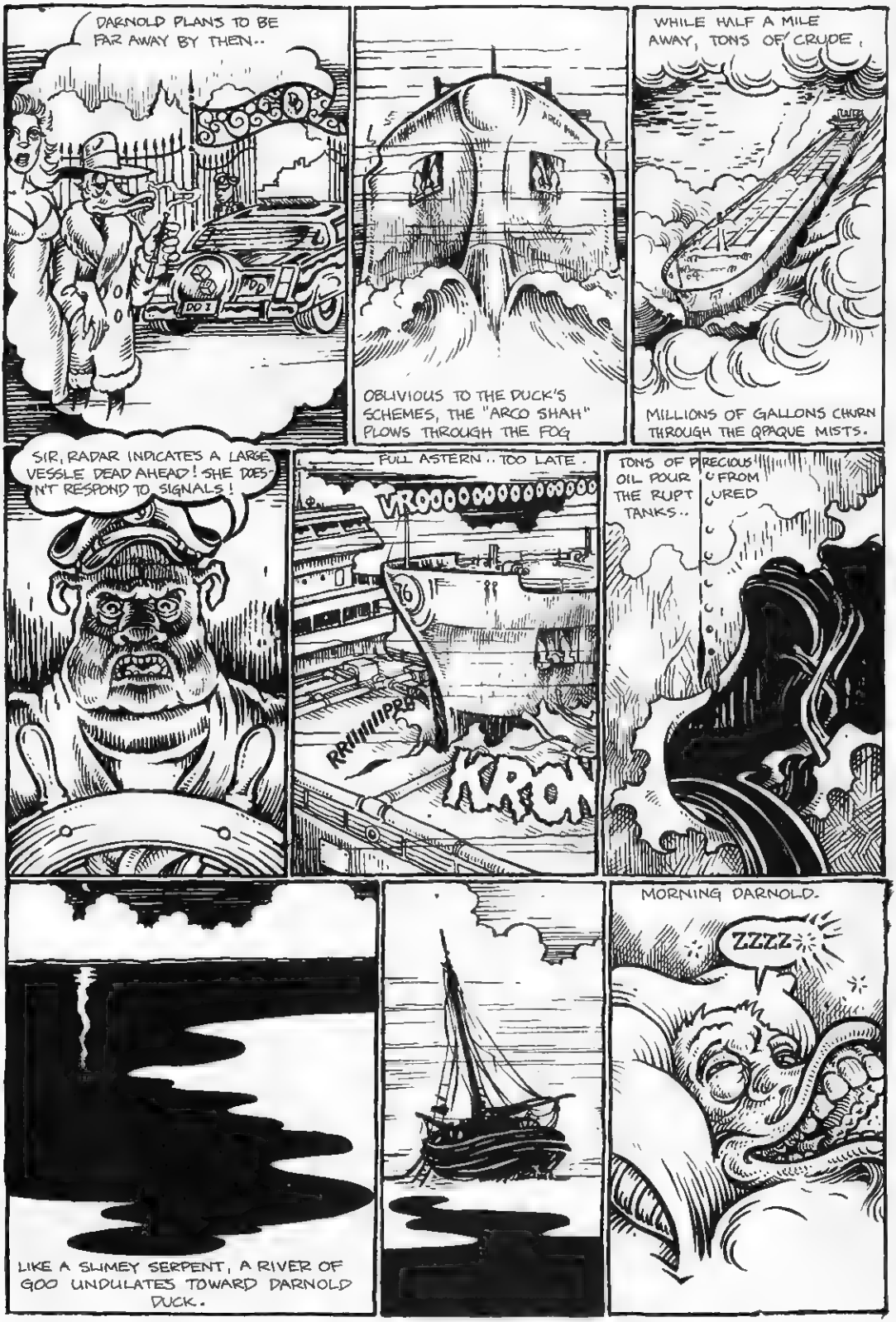


With 6% of the world's people, our country uses 30% of the world's resources. Obviously we have great potential to economize and conserve. The simple changes that we need to make are much less expensive than it would be to produce new energy sources, and making these changes will produce many, many, jobs for those that need them most. As energy costs rise, conservation techniques gain a greater foothold, not because a government is forcing them on us, but because they simply make sense!




DARNOLD DUCK TAKES TO THE NAUTICAL LIFE LIKE A DUCK TO WATER WITH THE PROCEEDS OF HIS QUESTIONABLE DEALINGS, HE'S PROCURED HIMSELF A YATCH AND PARKED IT ON THE MUD FLATS WHERE IT'S SIEVE-LIKE HULL FILLS AND EMPTIES WITH EACH TURN OF THE TIDE ...
YO HO HO!
DARNOLD IS STOCKING UP. BUYING CHEAP SO HE CAN SELL DEAR LATER.
DARNOLD IS A REALIST. A SURVIVALIST. A SUBSCRIBER TO THE VIEWS OF THE APOCALYPTIC VISIONARIES.
$.
RATFINK


DARNOLD PLANS TO FERRY THE SURVIVORS OF THE "BIG SHIT STORM" TO SAFETY— FOR A PRICE.
RAISE THE JOLLY ROGER. COMMANDEER. SUPPLIES. TAKE HOSTAGES.
DARNOLD DREAMS SWEET DREAMS OF BIG PROFITS AS HE SLEEPS UPON THE BOSOM OF THE DEEP.
AS DARNOLD SLUMBERS, THICK FOG ENGULFS HIS SODDEN HULK.
MEANWHILE THERE IS OTHER BUSINESS AFOOT UPON THE ROLLING WAVES. HUGE SHADOWS MOVE THROUGH THE DENSE MISTS, DELIVERING THE CRUDE THAT WILL FIRE THE ENGINES AND LUBE THE WHEELS OF DARNOLD'S IMPENDING FORTUNES.


DARNOLD PLANS TO BE FAR AWAY BY THEN..
OBLIVIOUS TO THE DUCK'S SCHEMES, THE "ARCO SHAH" PLOWS THROUGH THE FOG
WHILE HALF A MILE AWAY, TONS OF CRUDE.
MILLIONS OF GALLONS CHURN THROUGH THE OPAQUE MISTS.
SIR, RADAR INDICATES A LARGE VESSLE DEAD AHEAD! SHE DOES-N'T RESPOND TO SIGNALS!
FULL ASTERN.. TOO LATE.
VROOOOOOOOOOOOOO
RRIIIIIPPP
KRASH
TONS OF PRECIOUS OIL POUR FROM THE RUPTURED TANKS..
LIKE A SLIMEY SERPENT, A RIVER OF GOO UNDULATES TOWARD DARNOLD DUCK.
MORNING DARNOLD.
ZZZZ

UP AND AT 'EM, DUCK. YOUR EMPIRE AWAITS YOU.
TODAY DARNOLD PLANS TO CORNER THE MARKET ON TAMPONS & TOILET PAPER-
TOMORROW THE WORLD, DARNOLD DUCK.
SKWEE
.. IF YOU DON'T SLIP UP..
ZOW!
YARG
VIP!
SPLORT!
MR. PURCELL! QUICK! I'VE NEVER SEEN ANYTHING LIKE IT ... THE TEETH ON THE THING!
AUDUBON SOCIETY
IT MUST HAVE COME IN WITH THE BIRDS WE CLEANED UP IN THE OIL SPILL. I DIDN'T NOTICE IT YESTERDAY, BUT THIS MORNING IT WAS THERE WITH THE OTHERS!
ROBERT PURCELL
IT JUST HUDDLES THERE MAKING THAT NOISE AND TRYING TO COVER ITSELF!
GOOD LORD!
-Wrrr..
©1982 G. Irons Apologies to H. Hunt & L. Willy Elder

HI THERE ALL YOU ECO-FREAKS!-IT'S YER PAL THE OLD MUTANT DROOLIN' AT YA!-HEY-ENERGY YA KNOW-I AINT GOT TOO MUCH OF IT MYSELF-GUESS I'M WHAT YA MIGHT CALL A BURNT OUT CASE!!-HEH!-WELL HERE'S A TANTALIZIN' LITTLE TALE ABOUT A GUY THAT HAD ALL THE ENERGY IN THE WORLD-LITERALLY

LIVIN' IN FEAR

IT WAS THE MIDDLE OF 1984 WHEN IT HAPPENED-MOST PEOPLE HAD KINDA FORGOTTEN ABOUT THE ENERGY CRISIS-THERE WAS TOO MUCH ELSE TO WORRY ABOUT....

-WHAT WITH REAGAN, THATCHER, ANDROPOV, AND ALL THE OTHER LUNATICS THAT CONTROLLED THINGS THE PROSPECTS FOR HUMANITY'S FUTURE WEREN'T EXACTLY HUNKY-DORY!

-IN FACT THE MAJORITY OF PEOPLE DIDN'T EVEN GIVE A THOUGHT TO DWINDLING ENERGY RESOURCES OR THE ALL-PERVASIVE POLLUTION OF THE ENVIRONMENT....

GODDAMN FUCKIN' TEEVEE-NEVER NUTHIN GOOD ON

-HERE IS THE NEWS. DEATH, SLAUGHTER, HUNGER, SUFFERING BLAH BLAH-ETC.....

KA-BOOM

OH SHIT!!

BUT FROM THE MILLIONS THAT STRUT AND SCURRY ACROSS THE SURFACE OF THIS INSIGNIFICANT MUDBALL WE CALL EARTH, WE TURN THE SPOT-LIGHT ON ONE MAN-- ARNOLD VEEBLEFELTZER

THIS IS HIS STORY.....

ARNOLD WAS A MAN OBSESSED!! ONE WORD POUNDED INCESSANTLY IN HIS SKULL-ENERGY-EARTH'S RESOURCES WERE RUNNING OUT! WE MUST CEASE OUR DEPENDANCE ON RAPIDLY DEPLETING FOSSIL FUELS, CEASE TINKERING WITH DANGEROUSLY UNSTABLE ENERGY SOURCES, OR CIVILIZATION AS WE KNOW IT WOULD BE IRREVOCABLY DOOMED!!

-NOW, ARNOLD WASN'T JUST SOME AVERAGE JOE LIKE YOU OR ME-OH NO, THIS IS THE CLINCHER-- ARNOLD VEEBLEFELTZER WAS A BONA-FIDE 100% GENIUS!!

GRAHAM MANLEY '83--

ARNOLD HAD DESIGNED A DEVICE THAT COULD PRODUCE VIRTUALLY LIMITLESS AMOUNTS OF NON POLLUTING ENERGY-IF ONLY MANKIND WOULD COME TO ITS SENSES THE WORLDS ENERGY PROBLEMS COULD BE SOLVED AT A STROKE!!-ALL IT NEEDED WAS MONEY, VAST QUANTITIES OF MONEY!!-BUT ARNOLD HAD A PROBLEM-NOBODY WOULD TAKE HIM SERIOUSLY.....

...THUS BEGAN A SEEMINGLY ENDLESS CYCLE OF REJECTION

WHA-?!!-WHO THE HELL IS THIS GUY?-SOME KINDA FUCKIN' NUT?

HAW HAW HAW HAW HAW

SLAM SLAM SLAM

-BUT FATE PLAYS STRANGE TRICKS -A SUDDEN RAINSTORM,-AN EYECATCHING MOVIE POSTER...

?!!

KLAATU BARADA NIKTU.....

"AND IN THE DARKNESS OF THE AUDITORIUM...

PING!

...CAME THE GENESIS OF THE GREAT IDEA!!

EXIT

EXIT

-A DEMONSTRATION SO DRAMATIC, SO STARTLING THAT THE WORLDS LEADERS WOULD BE FORCED TO TAKE HEED...
-WITH THE RESOURCES AT HIS DISPOSAL ARNOLD WOULD CONSTRUCT A MACHINE THAT WOULD DRAIN ALL THE ENERGY IN THE WORLD FOR A LIMITED PERIOD.....
THEN, AND ONLY THEN WOULD HE STEP FROM THE SHADOWS, RETURN THINGS TO NORMAL, REVEAL HIS PLANS AND THE WORLD WOULD BE SAVED!!!!

.....THEN WOULD COME -THE GLORY!!

YAY ARNIE!

SUN HERO OF THE DAY! WORLD ENERGY CRISIS AVERTED

YAY ARNIE!

TIMES

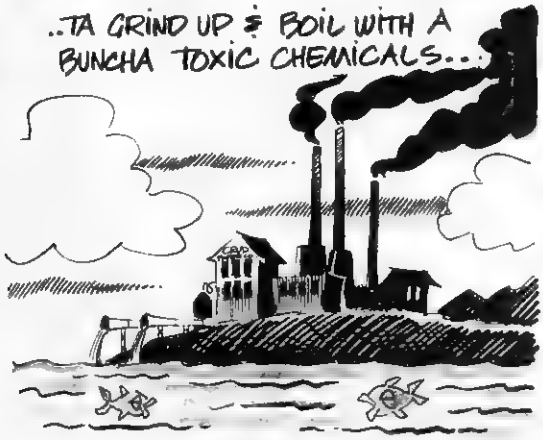
-THE LONG AWAITED RECOGNITION OF HIS GENIUS!!

...AND SO ACCOMPANIED BY HIS FAITHFUL ASSISTANT FUMBLE, ARNOLD TOOK OUT A LEASE ON AN ISOLATED MANSION....
BARROOOO

...SO, THE FINAL PREPARATIONS ARE MADE.....
PLUG IT IN, FUMBLE....
...THE FATEFUL BUTTON IS PRESSED
ZILCH!!
...AND...
PLINK!
...ALL THE LIGHTS ON PLANET EARTH...
....WENT OUT!!
...OF COURSE - WORLD-WIDE PANIC ENSUED...
THE END OF THE WORLD IS NIGH! REPENT!!
...SO, AFTER A SUITABLE PERIOD HAS ELAPSED
NOW FUMBLE - REVERSE THE PROCESS - THE HOUR IS AT HAND!!
OF COURSE!! - NOW I SEE!! - WHAT A PURSHLUGGINER CLOD I AM!!!
SMEK
DUH - SURE ARNIE - !! UH? - WAITA MINNIT!! NUTHIN'S HAPPENIN'!!!
-OH WELL - YOU WIN SOME - YOU LOSE SOME...
WHAT ARNIE FORGOT, YOU SEE, WAS THAT WHEN HE DRAINED ALL THE EARTHS ENERGY, HE SHUT OFF THE POWER SUPPLY TO THE ZILCHOTRON!! - NIFTY HUH? .....
...AS HE LATER PHILOSOPHIC-ALLY CONCLUDED. IN THE MEANTIME - NEXT TIME YER ELECTRIC TOOTH-BRUSH PACKS UP - WHO KNOWS EH ??

SCRIPT & ART © 1983 GRAHAM MANLEY

"MAKIN' MONEY..."



WHY!?! SO'S WE CAN PRINT MORE OF THIS, HOMBRE!
AHAHAHA

the Planet Earth's TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS

THE EVOLUTION of RAIN FOREST HABITATS has occurred

CHANGED LITTLE OVER TENS OF MILLIONS OF YEARS. THESE STABLE, UNCHANGING ENVIRONMENTS HAVE GIVEN RISE TO THE PLANET'S MOST DIVERSE & COMPLEX ECOSYSTEMS. IN THIS STABLE ENVIRONMENT, LIFE IS ALMOST UNINTERRUPTED BY THE PROCESSES OF EVOLUTION, WORKING WITHOUT INTERRUPTION IN THIS STABLE ENVIRONMENT FOR SO MANY MILLIONS OF YEARS, HAS PRODUCED SPECIALIZED ORGANISMS TO SUIT EVERY TINY NICHE. AN ACRE OF RAIN FOREST MAY BE HOME TO 200 SPECIES OF TREES, OVER 823 SPECIES OF BEETLES WERE COUNTED FROM A SINGLE SPECIES OF TREE IN PERU.

CROWN

CANOPY

UNDERSTORY

FLOOR

DISTRIBUTION:

NOWHERE ON THE PLANET IS THERE MORE LIGHT, WARMTH & PRECIPITATION THAN IN WEST CENTRAL AFRICA, SOUTHEAST ASIA & THE ISLANDS OF THE WESTERN PACIFIC, & SOUTH AMERICA FROM S. MEXICO ACROSS THE AMAZON BASIN TO SOUTHERN BRAZIL. AS A CONSEQUENCE, THESE LANDS ARE BLANKETED BY THE DENSEST & RICHEST PROLIFERATION OF PLANT LIFE IN FRANCE, RAIN FORESTS WOULD RING THE EQUATOR WHEREVER DAYS ARE HOT & PRECIPITATION IS HIGH. FARMING, RANCHING, LOGGING, MINING & FIRES HAVE DRAMATICALLY REDUCED THEIR ORIGINAL RANGE.

AN ESTIMATED 7% OF THE PLANET'S LAND AREA IS COVERED WITH TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS — AN AREA ROUGHLY THE SIZE OF EUROPE. GREEN PLANTS ARE THE PRIMARY PRODUCERS OF THE BIOSPHERE, CONVERTING SOLAR ENERGY INTO ORGANIC COMPOUNDS THAT NOURISH THE PLANTS & OTHER LIVING THINGS. BECAUSE FORESTS FIX NEARLY HALF OF THE BIOSPHERE'S TOTAL ENERGY, THE DESTRUCTION OF RAIN FORESTS WILL UNDOUBTEDLY HAVE LONG-LASTING CONSEQUENCES FOR MOST SPECIES LIVING ON THE PLANET.

WHEN THE FORESTS ARE DESTROYED, PRECIPITATION DROPS DRAMATICALLY. THE RAIN THAT DOES FALL, FALLS ON DENUDED LAND, WASHING AWAY THE PRECIOUS, IRREPLACEABLE TOPSOIL, & ULTIMATELY LEADING TO DESERTIFICATION BECAUSE VIRGIN RAIN FOREST BIOSYSTEMS ARE SO ANCIENT IN ORIGIN, THEIR ESTABLISHMENT IS EXTREMELY UNLIKELY.

ASIAN, AUSTRALIAN & PACIFIC ISLAND "RAIN FOREST NATIONS"

1. VIETNAM
2. KAMPUCHEA
3. THAILAND
4. LAOS
5. TAIWAN
6. PHILIPPINES
7. PAPUA NEW GUINEA
8. SOLOMON ISLANDS
9. FIJI
10. AUSTRALIA
11. INDONESIA
12. SINGAPORE
13. MALAYSIA
14. BRUNEI (U.K.)
15. SRI LANKA
16. INDIA
17. BANGLADESH
18. NEPAL
19. BHUTAN
20. BURMA
21. CHINA

CENTRAL & SOUTH AMERICAN RAIN FOREST NATIONS

1. BRAZIL
2. BOLIVIA
3. PERU
4. ECUADOR
5. COLOMBIA
6. VENEZUELA
7. TR. & TOBAGO
8. GUYANA
9. SURINAME
10. FRENCH GUIANA
11. PANAMA
12. COSTA RICA
13. NICARAGUA
14. HONDURAS
15. GUATEMALA
16. MEXICO
17. BELIZE
18. JAMAICA
19. CUBA
20. HAITI
21. DOMINICAN REPUBLIC
22. PUERTO RICO

AFRICAN "RAIN FOREST NATIONS"

1. MADAGASCAR
2. ZAIRE
3. CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC
4. NIGERIA
5. BENIN
6. GHANA
7. IVORY COAST
8. GUINEA
9. SIERRA LEONE
10. LIBERIA
11. EQUATORIAL GUINEA
12. CAMEROON
13. GABON
14. CONGO
15. ANGOLA (CABINDA PROVINCE)

NORTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

NORTH PACIFIC OCEAN

SOUTH PACIFIC OCEAN

SOUTH ATLANTIC OCEAN

INDIAN OCEAN

EQUATOR

GREENLAND

ARCTIC CIRCLE

ASIA

SAHARAN DESERT

AFRICA

AUSTRALIA

ANTARCTIC CIRCLE

ANTARCTICA

WEDDELL SEA

RAIN AMAZON BASIN

MAP LEGEND:

- TROPICAL RAIN FOREST
- NATIONAL BOUNDARIES
- NUMBERED "RAIN FOREST NATIONS"

INFORMATION SOURCES USED ON THIS POSTER INCLUDE:

- NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC (1983)
- THE LIVING PLANET
- TROPICAL NATURE

MORE RAINFOREST INFORMATION CONTACT:

RAINFOREST ACTION NETWORK

DESTRUCTION:

ESTIMATES OF THE MAGNITUDE, PACE & IRREVERSIBILITY OF DESTRUCTION OF THE PLANET'S TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS VARY WIDELY ACCORDING TO DIFFERENT CRITERIA USED TO DEFINE WHAT FORESTS, PASTURE, OR TREE PLANTATIONS, AND ACCORDING TO PRIMARY FOREST (TO AGRICULTURE, SELECTIVE LOGGING, AND OTHER FACTORS. BUT THE GENERAL OUTLINES OF THE DESTRUCTION ARE CLEAR: EACH YEAR, AN AREA ROUGHLY THE SIZE OF ALL THE FORESTS IN THE CONTINENTAL U.S. IS CLEARED. AND FOR THE FORESTS THAT REMAIN, MANY SPECIES ARE BEING ENDANGERED OR DESTROYED. FOREST AREAS BEFORE THEY ARE EVEN CATALOGED. THE LONG RANGE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS BIOLOGICAL IMPOVERISHMENT CANNOT BE MEASURED. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT — WITHOUT DRAMATIC CHANGES IN HUMAN ATTITUDES & BEHAVIOR — THE PLANET'S ENTIRE TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS COULD BE GONE FOREVER BY THE YEAR 2100.

ESTIMATES OF THE RATE OF TROPICAL RAIN FOREST DESTRUCTION VARY WIDELY, BUT PERHAPS AS HALF THE PLANET'S SPECIES OF PLANTS & ANIMALS LIVE IN THE TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS. THEIR NUMBERS CANNOT BE ACCURATELY TABULATED, FOR AS MANY SPECIES ARE DIED AND CLASSIFIED DAILY, MANY SPECIES ARE BEING EXTINGUISHED IN DESTROYED FOREST AREAS BEFORE THEY ARE EVEN CATALOGED. THE LONG RANGE CONSEQUENCES OF THIS BIOLOGICAL IMPOVERISHMENT CANNOT BE MEASURED. IT IS CONCEIVABLE THAT — WITHOUT DRAMATIC CHANGES IN HUMAN ATTITUDES & BEHAVIOR — THE PLANET'S ENTIRE TROPICAL RAIN FORESTS COULD BE GONE FOREVER BY THE YEAR 2100.

ONLY BY TRANSFORMING SELFISH PETTY "NATIONAL INTERESTS" - ONCE AND FOR ALL - A SPECIES, WE HAVE TO ARREST & REVERSE THIS SENSELESS DESTRUCTION. WE OWE IT TO ALL THAT LIVES ON THE PLANET. OUR HOME.

THE RAIN FOREST ACTION NETWORK & EARTH FIRST! WILL BE LAUNCHING A TROPICAL RAIN FOREST CAMPAIGN IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE PEOPLE LIVING IN THE WORLD'S LARGEST REMNANT OF COMMUNITY RAIN FOREST, BRAZIL'S NATION & NATIONS WORLDWIDE TO PROTECT THE NATURAL HOME OF LITERALLY MILLIONS OF PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD.

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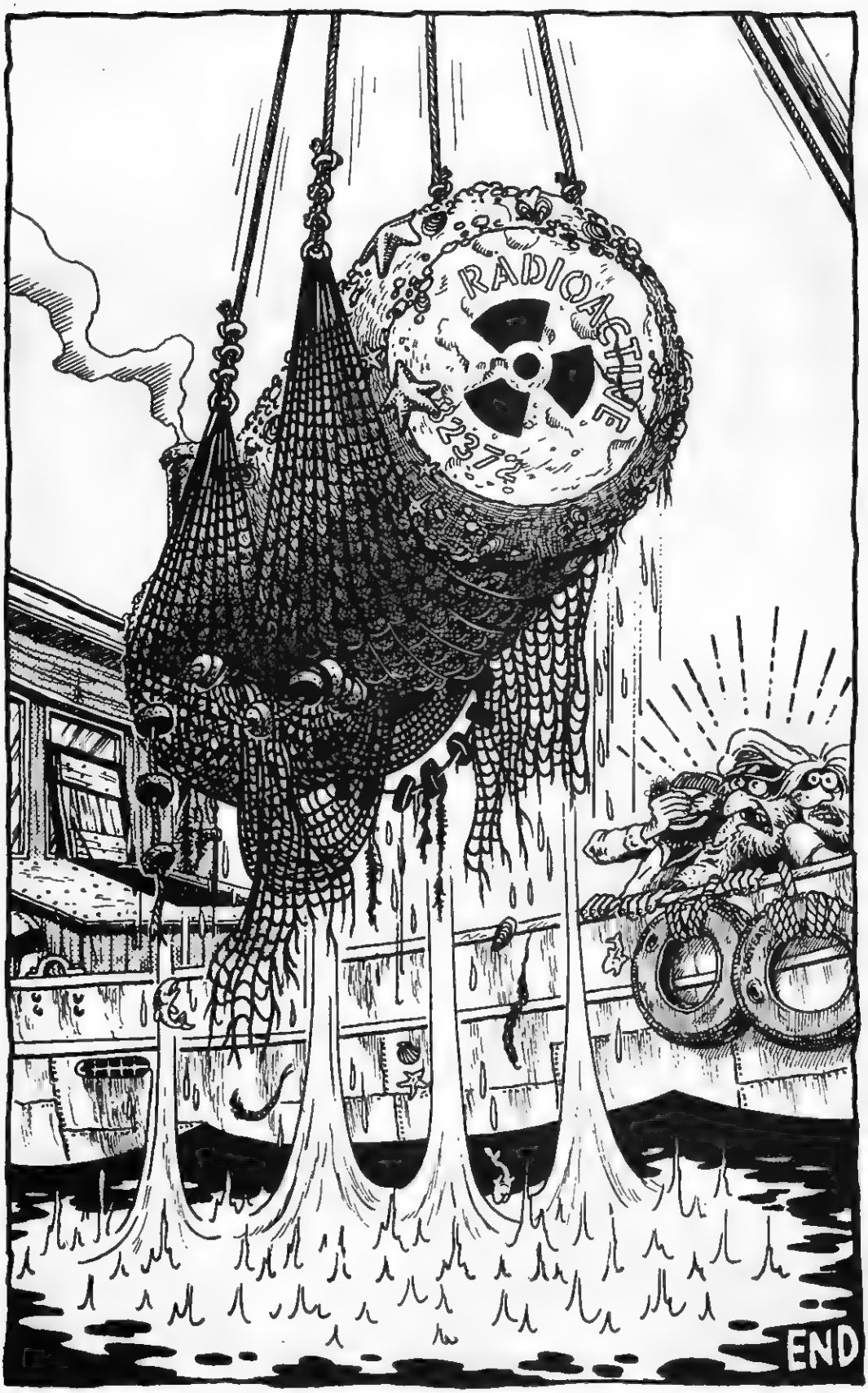
PRINTED ON 100% RECYCLED PAPER

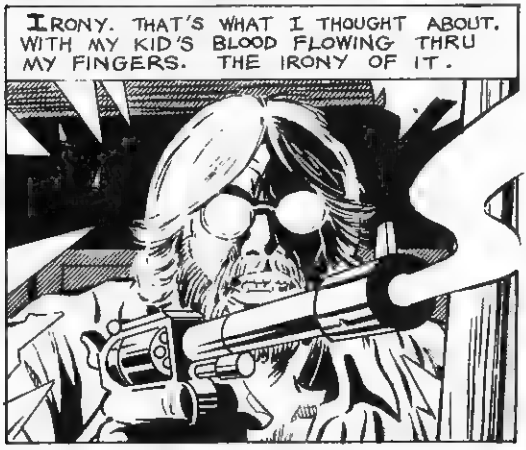
THE BIG CATCH...
CHUG
CHUG
CHUG
TWANG!
BASED ON A TRUE RUMOR...
© APRIL 1984 JOHN EDGAR
YO, CAP! I THINK WE'VE FETCHED UP ON A SNAG!
WELL EASE UP ON THE BLASTED WINCH LEST YE CAPSIZE THE LOT OF US!
!☆@#! HIPPIES...
I READ IN DE PAPER DAT DE SHRIMP BOAT IN DE GULF OB MEXICO, HE SNAG HE NET ON DE BOTTOM TRASH... BUT WHEN HE HAUL IN HE NET....
.... LO AND LO HE FIND DE GOLDEN INGOTS!
HAUL IN ON THET WINCH!

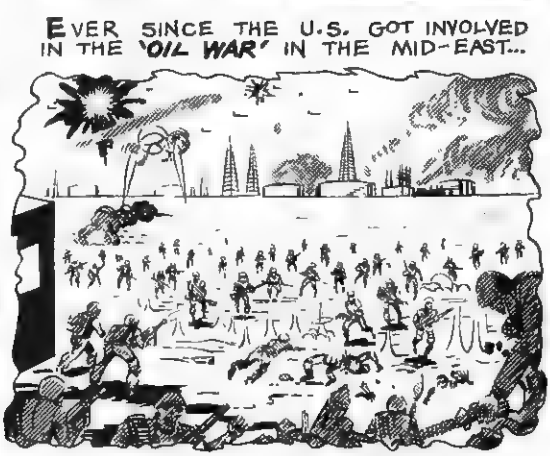
HMMM... THERE'S NOTHIN' MARKED ON THE CHARTS...
BUT DESE CHART ARE TEN YEAR OLD..!
SHE'S COMIN' UP...!
HERE LAD! HELP ME CLEAR AWAY THE DECK F' THE BIG CATCH!
"EVEN SHARES FOR ALL HANDS" YES, CAPTING?
OF COURSE, LAD, OF COURSE...

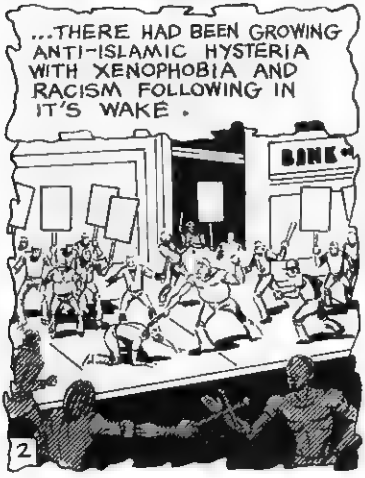

RADIOACTIVE
237
END

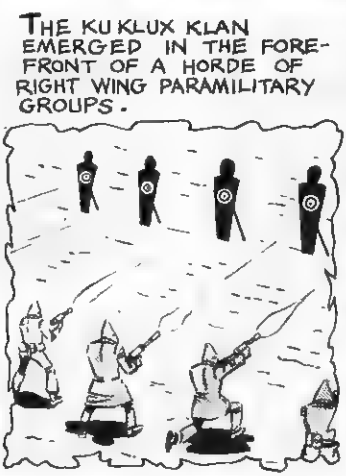
HELLO! I'M NELSON ROCKEFELLER, THE ENERGY VAMPIRE! YOU KNOW, I'M DEAD, BUT THIS STORY IS SO GOOD I HAD TO COME BACK TO TELL YOU ABOUT IT! IT'S ABOUT ENERGY-- OR RATHER SOME OF THE FAR-REACHING SIDE EFFECTS OF THE SCRAMBLE FOR THE STUFF! A FEW STRAY NOTES IN AN...
OVERTURE TO ARMAGEDDON!
CALIFORNIA. THE NEAR FUTURE.
GREENWOOD '81
CRASH!
CHUCKA-CHUCKA.

BLAMM!


IRONY. THAT'S WHAT I THOUGHT ABOUT. WITH MY KID'S BLOOD FLOWING THRU MY FINGERS. THE IRONY OF IT.


EVER SINCE THE U.S. GOT INVOLVED IN THE 'OIL WAR' IN THE MID-EAST...


...THERE HAD BEEN GROWING ANTI-ISLAMIC HYSTERIA WITH XENOPHOBIA AND RACISM FOLLOWING IN IT'S WAKE.
BINK


THE KU KLUX KLAN EMERGED IN THE FORE-FRONT OF A HORDE OF RIGHT WING PARAMILITARY GROUPS.

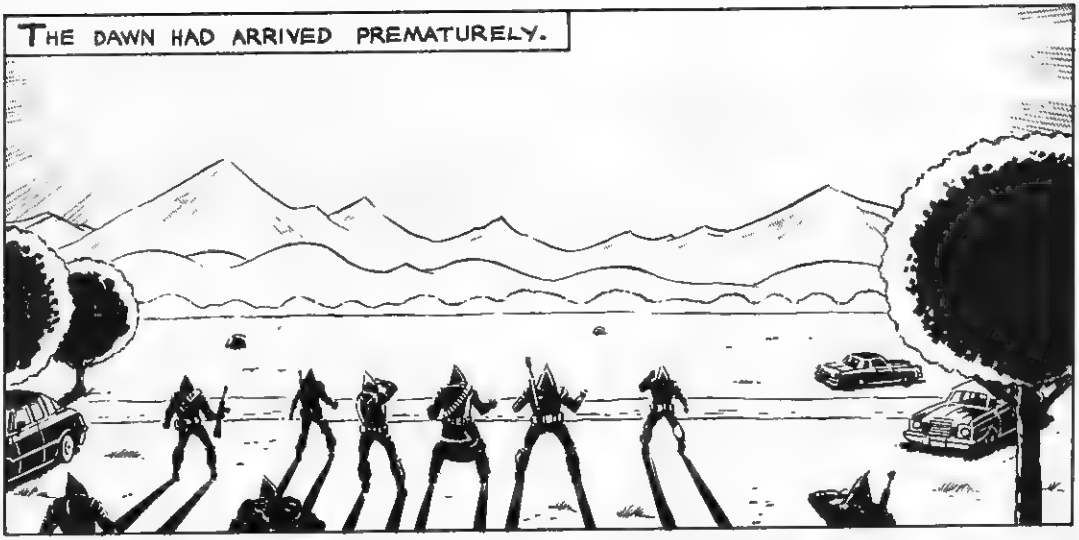
THINGS WERE GETTING TOO HOT IN LA -- CRIME, TRIGGER-HAPPY COPS, NAZIS, VIGILANTIES,...
...AND FINALLY SHOOT-OUTS AT THE GAS LINES.

I PACKED UP MY FAMILY...
...AND MOVED TO AN ISOLATED FARMHOUSE UP NORTH NEAR THE NEVADA BORDER.
FREED FROM MY JOB AT A COMMERCIAL ART FIRM IN LA, I DEVOTED MYSELF TO MY FIRST LOVE, SCULPTURE. LYNN TOOK A JOB TEACHING IN THE LOCAL COMMUNITY COLLEGE.
MOVE OVER, MICHELANGELO!
WE PLANTED A GARDEN AND I INSTALLED SOLAR HEATING PANELS ON THE ROOF.
THINGS WERE GOING GREAT UNTIL ONE NIGHT WE FOUND A CROSS BURNING IN OUR YARD. LYNN IS OF JAPANESE DESCENT. I NEVER THOUGHT MUCH ABOUT IT.
APPARENTLY SOMEONE ELSE DID.
A MONTH LATER, MY OLD PAL, LARRY THE BASS PLAYER, AND HIS WIFE JO CAME UP FOR A VISIT...
WHAT'S HAPPENIN', LARRY!
MY MAN, RICK!
THE PEOPLE WITH THE CROSS WERE NOT HAPPY.
I WAS TORN BACK TO THE PRESENT BY A SUDDEN BARRAGE OF GUNFIRE.
GET DOWN!!

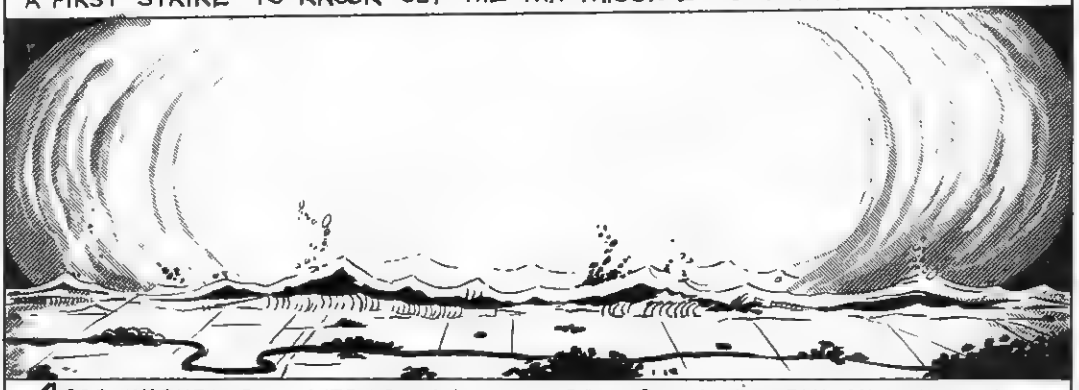
I KEPT MY HEAD TO THE FLOOR FOR AN INTERMINABLE TIME.
THIS CAN'T BE HAPPENING!
IT ENDED AS SUDDENLY AS IT BEGAN... LEAVING A CASUALTY.
JO!! JO'S BEEN HIT!!
I'M GONNA TRY TO REACH THE PHONE!
STAY DOWN!
IT'S PROBABLY BEEN CUT!!
DON'T...
AN ETERNITY IN HELL WAS CUT SHORT.
A GRENADE.
LARRY WAS DEAD.
4

SHRAPNEL IMBEDDED ITSELF IN MY STOMACH. THE CABIN WAS ON FIRE. IT FILLED WITH SMOKE.
I REMEMBERED THIS STORY I ONCE READ BY ERNEST HEMINGWAY.
THERE'S THIS LION THAT'S BEING HUNTED. IT'S WRITTEN FROM THE LION'S POINT OF VIEW. HE'S WOUNDED AND HE'S HIDING IN TALL GRASS.
HE CHARGES THE HUNTERS. THEY'RE PUMPING ROUND AFTER ROUND INTO HIM AND HE JUST KEEPS COMING. HALF HIS HEAD IS GONE AND HE'S CRAWLING AND HE JUST KEEPS COMING. HE KNOWS HE'S DEAD BUT HE'S HELL-BENT ON TAKING THEM WITH HIM.
I ALWAYS THOUGHT THAT WOULD BE THE WAY TO DIE.
EPILOGUE: SOMETIME LATER, THE KLANSMEN WALK AWAY FROM THE NOW STILL FARMHOUSE...
... WALKING TOWARD THE EAST.
BOYS, WE LOST A FEW MEN BUT WE GOT THOSE NIGGER-LOVERS!
JUST LIKE OUR BOYS OVERSEAS ARE GONNA GIT THEM A-RABS!
JUST THEN, THE SKY LIT UP.
5

THE DAWN HAD ARRIVED PREMATURELY.



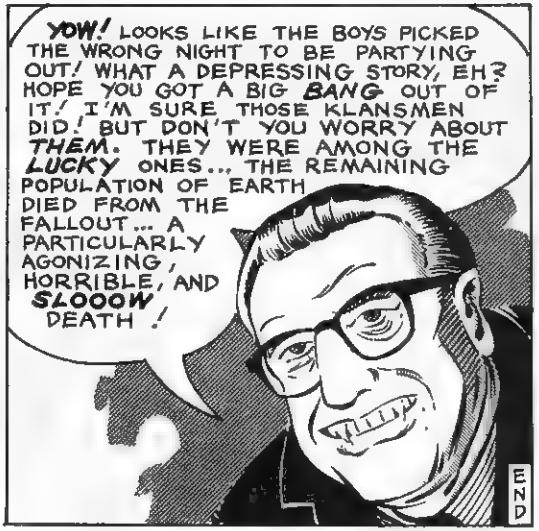
WHILE THE KLANSMEN HAD BEEN OUT OF TOWN, THINGS HAD BEEN HAPPENING. THE MID-EAST WAR HAD REACHED A CRISIS POINT. THE SOVIETS ATTEMPTED A FIRST STRIKE TO KNOCK OUT THE MX MISSILE SYSTEM.



4600 WARHEADS CONVERGED ON THE GREAT BASIN OF UTAH AND NEVADA. HUGE SHOCK WAVES IMMEDIATELY RACED ACROSS CALIFORNIA TO THE OCEAN...

...TO SWEEP AWAY THE PETTY AFFAIRS OF WOMEN AND MEN.

6


YOW! LOOKS LIKE THE BOYS PICKED THE WRONG NIGHT TO BE PARTYING OUT! WHAT A DEPRESSING STORY, EH? HOPE YOU GOT A BIG BANG OUT OF IT! I'M SURE THOSE KLANSMEN DID! BUT DON'T YOU WORRY ABOUT THEM. THEY WERE AMONG THE LUCKY ONES... THE REMAINING POPULATION OF EARTH DIED FROM THE FALLOUT... A PARTICULARLY AGONIZING, HORRIBLE, AND SLOOOW DEATH!
END

SUPER COSMIC COMIC CREATOR COMIX
© 1977 W. WOOD
KILGORE LEMMING WAS AN AVERAGE AMERICAN MIDDLE-CLASS NEUROTIC ACCIDENT-PRONE LEGENDARY BUT IMPOVERISHED CARTOONIST...
A DEGREE FROM THE FAMOUS ARTISTS SCHOOL OF WESTPORT, CT. AND TEN YEARS OF TWELVE PANEL PAGES FOR THE UNDERGROUNDS, BUT SOCIETY STINKS WORSE THAN EVER. EVERYBODY ELSE SOLD OUT, AND NOW IT'S MY TURN!
TODAY I HAVE A PERSONAL APPOINTMENT WITH THE GREAT SID KNEE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF MAMMOTH MANAGEMENT MONOPOLIES, THE WORLD'S GREATEST COMIC BOOK COMPANY!
HEY! THAT WEIRD LOOKING CHARACTER IS WANDERING INTO THE SUBWAY TUNNEL! SHOULDN'T SOMEBODY DO SOMETHING?
IS BETTER YOU SHOULDN'T NOTICE EVERTHING, DOLLINK, IN FACT, THE LESS THE BETTER.
DIDN'T YOU USED TO WORK FOR THE KATZENJAMMER KIDS?
OH YAH! ZO YOU REMEMBER ME, EH? DOZE KIDS, DEY TAUGHT ME HOW TO SURVIVE IN NEW YORK ZITTY.
HOLD IT RIGHT THERE, LEMMING! I'M THE MYSTIC MESSENGER, AND THIS IS THE MESSAGE: YOU HAVE BEEN APPOINTED KEEPER OF THE WORDS! ONLY UNTIL SUPERCEDED BY BETTER WORDS, OF COURSE.
THE WORDS ARE BEN DAY, A MODERN MIRACLE OF SCIENCE THAT CAN TONE LINE DRAWINGS IN PERFECT PATTERNS OF LINES AND DOTS.
IT CHANGED MINE.
CATCH YOU LATER, I'VE GOT A DATE WITH BILLY BADSON AT THE AUTOMAT. WHAT AN ASS ON THAT BOY!
BEN DAY! JUST IMAGINE! BRUTE ENERGY AND NERVE, COMBINED WITH DANDRUFF, ACNE AND YAWS, IT'LL CHANGE YOUR LIFE.
HRUMMRUM
KAWEEFT-HRUM
POW!
KA-CHUNG!

GOOD MORNING. I HAVE AN APPOINTMENT WITH MR. SID KNEE.
TAKE A SEAT, PLEASE.
ALL THOSE OTHER CARTOONISTS HAVE APPOINTMENTS TOO. YOU'LL JUST HAVE TO WAIT YOUR TURN.

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN WAITING?
REMEMBER THE BEATLES?
THAT LONG!
THEY MIGHT GET BACK TOGETHER, YOU KNOW.
BIRDS BUGS AND MUSIC

I AM A GREAT CARTOONIST! I WILL NOT WAIT IN LINE WITH ALL THOSE HACKS!
EXCUSE ME, MISS...
YOU WITH THE KNOCKERS
MR. KNEE ONLY SEES IMPORTANT PEOPLE DURING BUSINESS HOURS. WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE YOUR SAMPLES AND GO HOME.

NOW I'M FURIOUS! I'M SO MAD I DON'T CARE WHAT HAPPENS!
BEN DAY

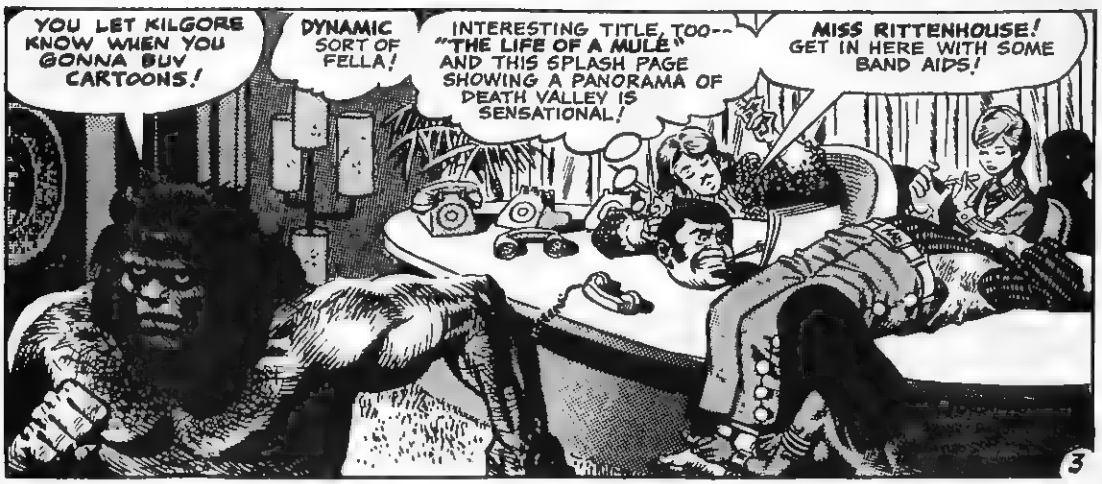
IT'S WORKING!
THEY PAY ME TO HUMOR THESE CREEPS, BUT THIS GUY IS REALLY OBNOXIOUS!
RRIP!
PAF!
FOOM!
KRUNCH!

NOW MAYBE YOU LISSEN TO KILGORE! ME GOT TWO O'CLOCK APPOINTMENT, WOMAN!
I'M BEING VIOLATED BY A MAD CARTOONIST!
BUT JESUS, WHAT A THRILL!

SUPERHERO INCEST? HARRY, INCEST IS KID STUFF THIS YEAR! WE NEED SOMETHING WITH BALLS! SOMETHING TO RIP THE GUTS OUT OF THOSE SLOBBERING LITTLE CRETINS!
BUT REMEMBER, HARRY... WE CAN'T OFFEND THE CODE.
NOW ABOUT THAT PORNO TITLE, HARRY. IT'S 80-20 OR NOTHING! TAKE IT OR LEAVE IT. AND DON'T BRING MY MOTHER INTO IT... I KNOW SHE'S YOUR MOTHER TOO.
KA-BLAM!
KILGORE SEE BIG PUBLISHER NOW!

UGH! YOU BUY KILGORE'S CARTOONS!
OH! YOU'RE A CARTOONIST! FOR A MINUTE THERE I THOUGHT YOU WERE SOME KIND OF NUT!
CRUNCH!

RRIP!
I'M SORRY, I NEVER LOOK AT CARTOONS I HAVEN'T SEEN BEFORE, AND I'M MUCH TOO BUSY TO SEE NEW ONES!
OF COURSE, I MIGHT MAKE AN EXCEPTION IN YOUR CASE.
SPRONG!

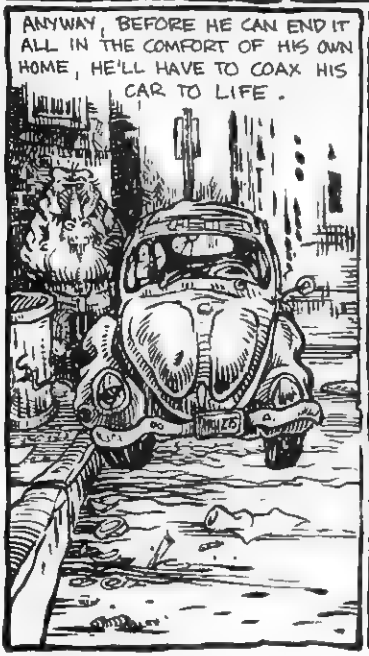

YOU LET KILGORE KNOW WHEN YOU GONNA BUY CARTOONS!
DYNAMIC SORT OF FELLA!
INTERESTING TITLE, TOO-- "THE LIFE OF A MULE" AND THIS SPLASH PAGE SHOWING A PANORAMA OF DEATH VALLEY IS SENSATIONAL!
MISS RITTENHOUSE! GET IN HERE WITH SOME BAND AIDS!

PULL YOURSELF TOGETHER, MISS RITTENHOUSE. I THOUGHT YOU WERE A WOMAN OF THE WORLD.
HE'S SO MYSTERIOUS ...SO COMPLEX... I DIDN'T THINK ANY MAN COULD MOVE ME LIKE HE DID.
I'VE NEVER SEEN BETTER ANIMAL ANATOMY IN MY ENTIRE CAREER. THESE CARTOONS AND YOUR TITS ARE GIVING ME IDEAS!
MINUTES LATER, ACROSS TOWN...
COULD BE YOUR NEXT BIG TREND, SID...
NAKED PEOPLE AND NAKED ANIMALS TOGETHER SOUNDS LIKE A NATURAL COMBINATION TO ME.
WE'VE GOT TO SIGN THIS GENIUS TO AN EXCLUSIVE CONTRACT BEFORE HE SLIPS OUT OF OUR HANDS — — NO ONE ELSE WILL DO!
MEANWHILE, AT CHOCK-FULL-O-NUTS...
WHERE AM I? OH, NOW I REMEMBER... GUESS I'VE BLOWN MY CHANCES FOR A SUCCESSFUL CARTOONING CAREER, BUT WHAT THE HELL, IT WAS WORTH IT!
HEY, MAN, YOU'RE DYNAMITE!
I FOLLOWED YOU, EVER SINCE I SAW YOU ON THE SUBWAY PLATFORM! YOU REALLY GO THROUGH SOME CHANGES!
PLEASE!
...NOT HERE...
SHHH!
TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES, BABY!
HUSH!
WOW! I NEVER HAD IT LIKE THAT BEFORE! ...RIGHT IN FRONT OF BLOOMINGDALE'S! ZOWIE!
OH, YES.. MY NAME IS KARISMA FARROW!
I WANT TO BE A MOVIE STAR!
KILGORE LEMMING. HE COULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF THE GREATS. BUT HE GAVE IT ALL UP FOR JUST TWO MAGIC WORDS AND A PARADE OF TAWDRY THRILLS...
DON'T ASK ME, I ONLY WORK HERE.
THANK GOD NEW YORKERS NEVER NOTICE ANYTHING!
I WONDER IF I SHOULD SAY THAT MAGIC WORD AGAIN?
I'LL SAY ONE THING FOR IT... IT CERTAINLY HAS CHANGED MY OUTLOOK ON LIFE!
WILL KILGORE LEMMING DARE TO UTTER THE MAGIC WORDS IN A BRIGHTLY LIT MANHATTAN COFFEE SHOP IN FRONT OF ALL THESE PEOPLE? WOULDN'T YOU?

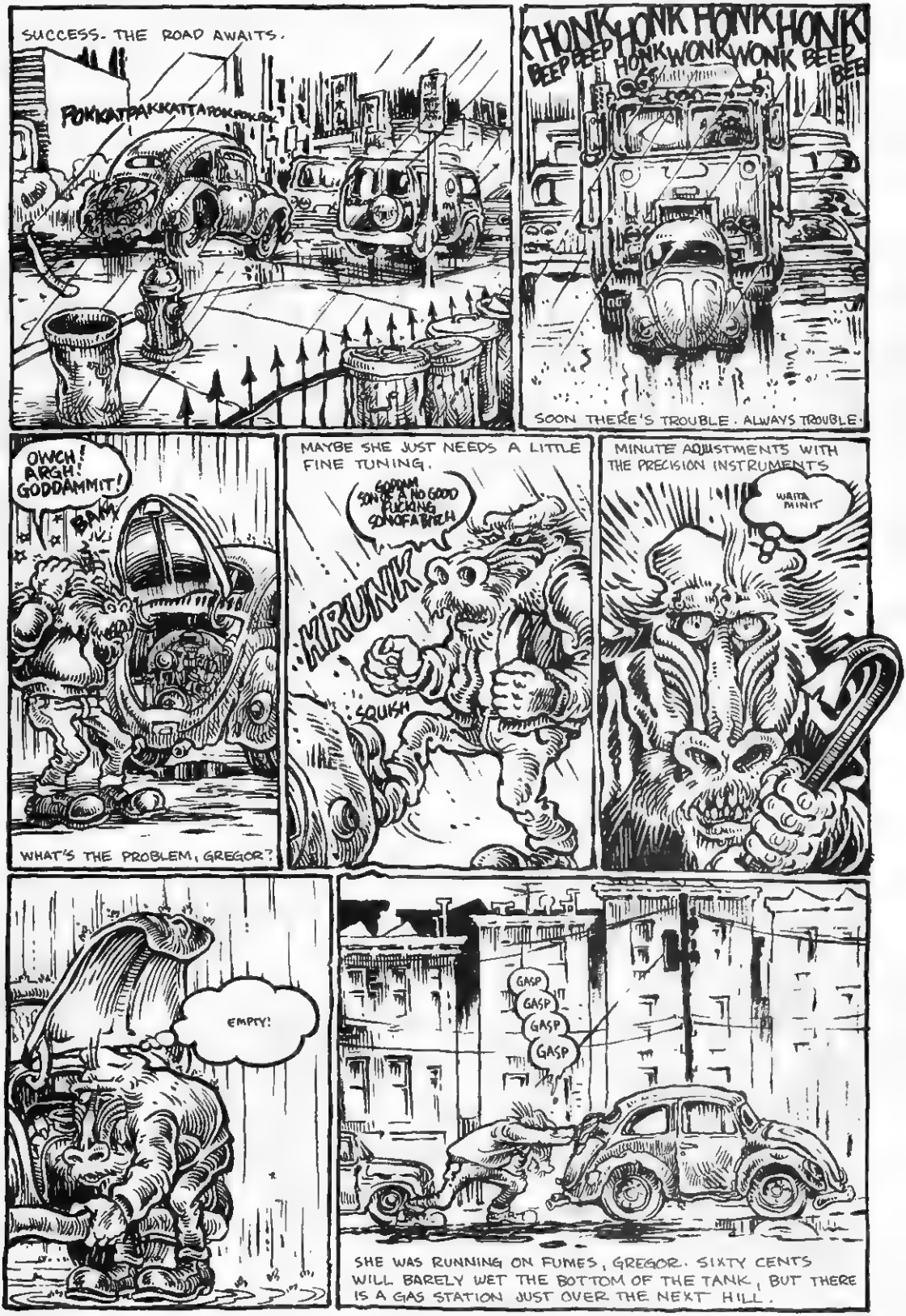
AS KILGORE REACHES HIS CLIMAX...
BEN DAY!
ZIP-A-TONE!
THERE YOU ARE! I REPRESENT MAMMOTH MANAGEMENT MONOPOLIES PORNO DIVISION. HOW WOULD YOU LIKE TO DO THAT FOR MONEY?
ME TOO?
AND SO KILGORE BEGINS HIS NEW LIFE. BY DAY HE IS KILGORE THE BARBARIAN...
ACTION!
MAKING FILMS, MAKING PERSONAL APPEARANCES, MAKING MONEY...
AND BY NIGHT HE DRAWS THE ADVENTURES OF KILGORE THE BARBARIAN.
UNTIL FINALLY ONE DAY HE DOESN'T HAVE TO DO ANY-THING AT ALL.
HEFNER? IS BARBI WITH HIM? NO? THEN FORGET IT!
AND SID, STOP BOTHERING ME WITH ALL THOSE TRIVIAL DETAILS OR YOU'RE THROUGH!
AND THE MORAL IS: SOME TALENT, HARD WORK, AND A BIT OF LUCK ARE ALL YOU NEED TO MAKE IT IN THE GLAMOROUS CARTOONING PROFESSION.
IF YOU KNOW A FEW MAGIC WORDS!

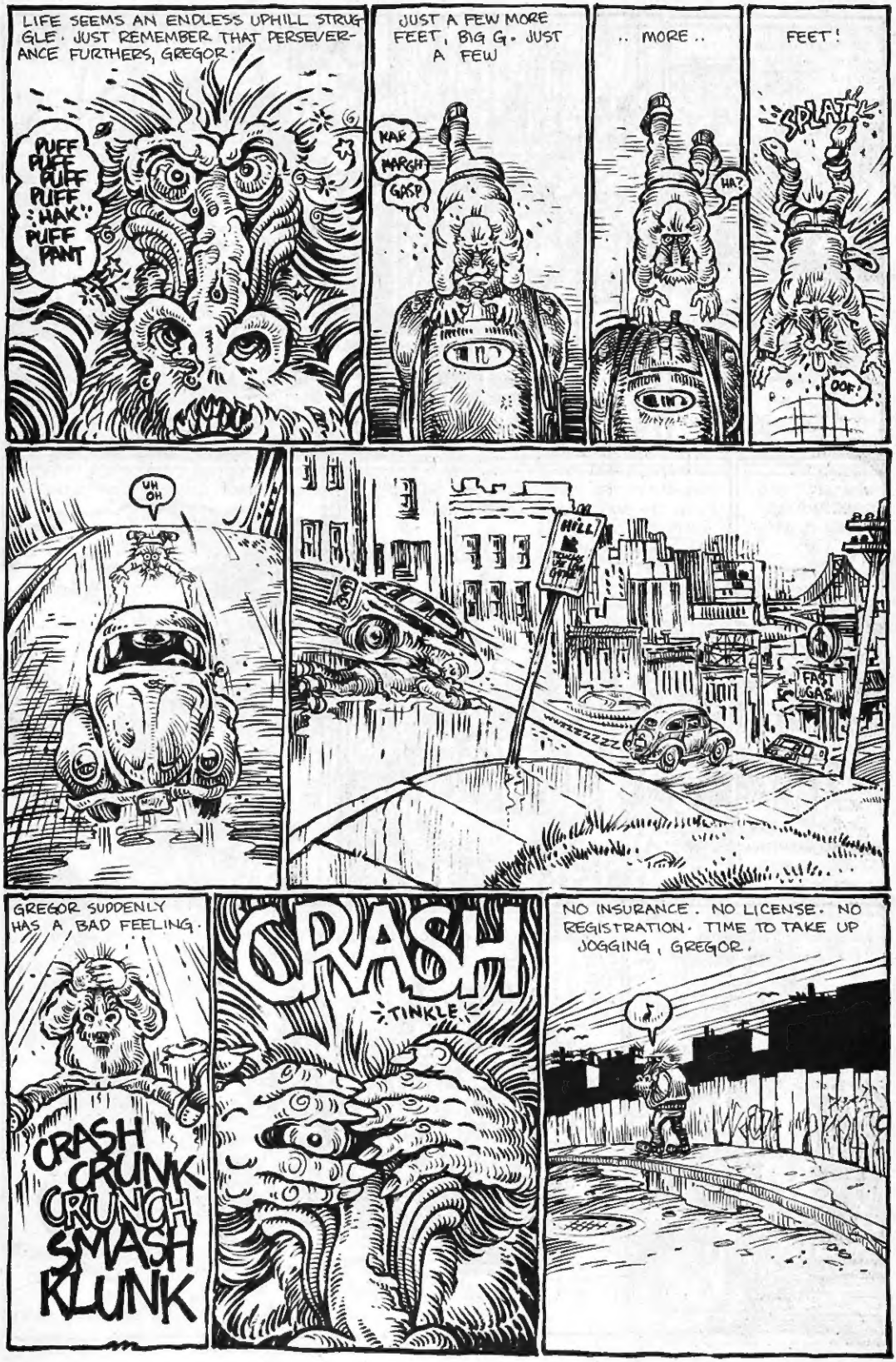
WE HADN'T HEARD FROM GREGOR LATELY ... WE'D GIVEN HIM UP FOR DEAD, AND EVEN WHEN WE FOUND HIM, WE COULDN'T TELL FOR SURE. BUT HERE HE IS, HARD AT IT, PONDERING THE ABSURDITIES OF AN URBAN GORILLA TOUGHING IT OUT IN THE COLD WORLD. THESE DAYS HE DOESN'T HAVE SO MUCH TIME TO WORRY ABOUT WHAT IT ALL MEANS ... IT TAKES ALL THE ENERGY HE CAN MUSTER JUST TO DEAL WITH PROCURING THE NECCESSITIES ... BEER, CIGARETTES, AND SPARE CHANGE FOR TWINKIES. IN SHORT, GREGOR HAS BEEN CAUGHT IN THE CRUNCH. HE DIDN'T HAVE MUCH TO BEGIN WITH, AND THE SITUATION HAS BEEN DETERIORATING BY THE SECOND. IN ADDITION TO HIS WANING BANK ACCOUNT, HIS PSYCHIC RESERVED ARE SAPPED AND THERE'S NO RELIEF IN SIGHT. GREGOR IS DEPRESSED.

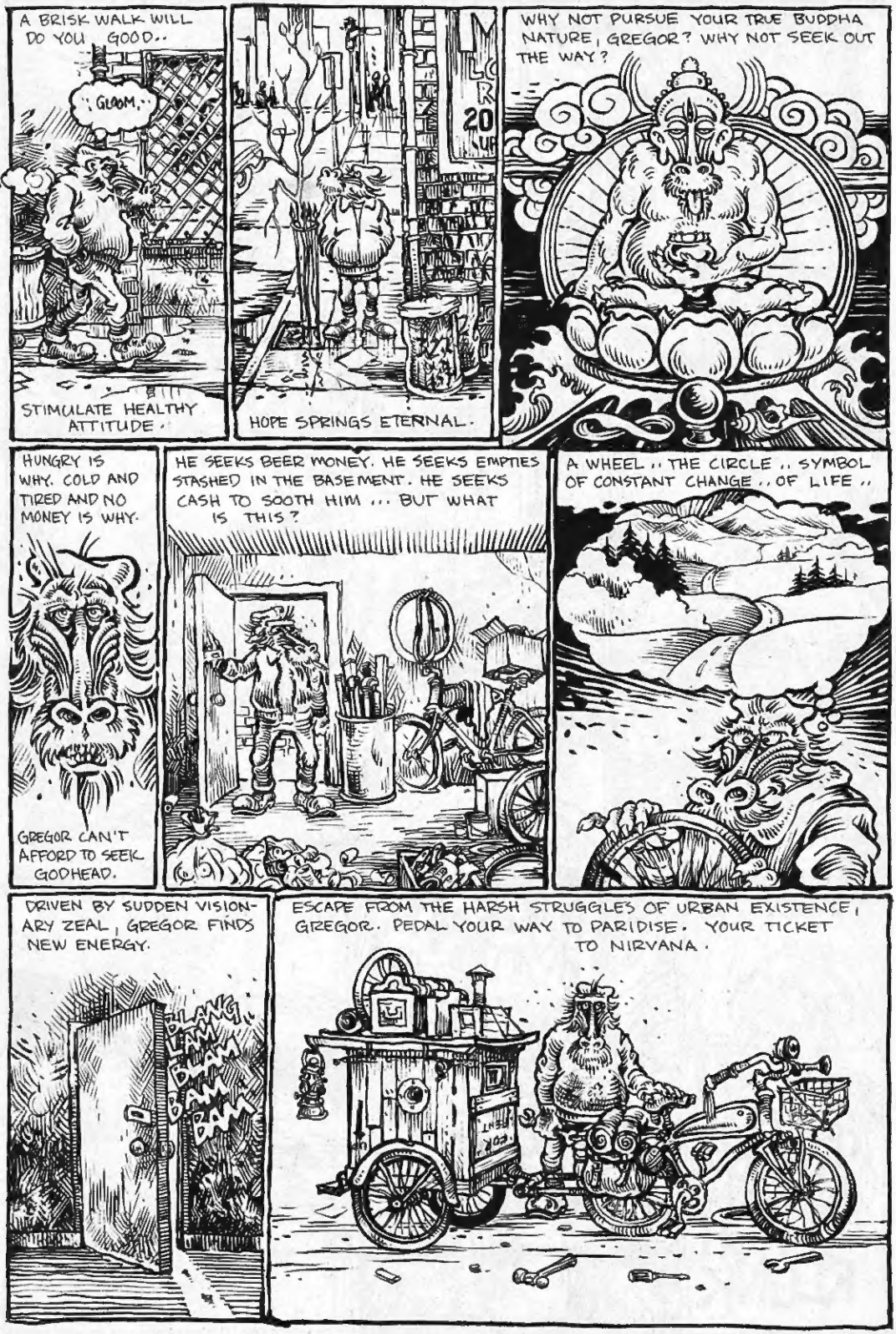
NOT THAT THERE'S MUCH TO RECOMMEND HOME. IN HIS DEPRESSION, HE'S LET THINGS SLIDE A BIT.

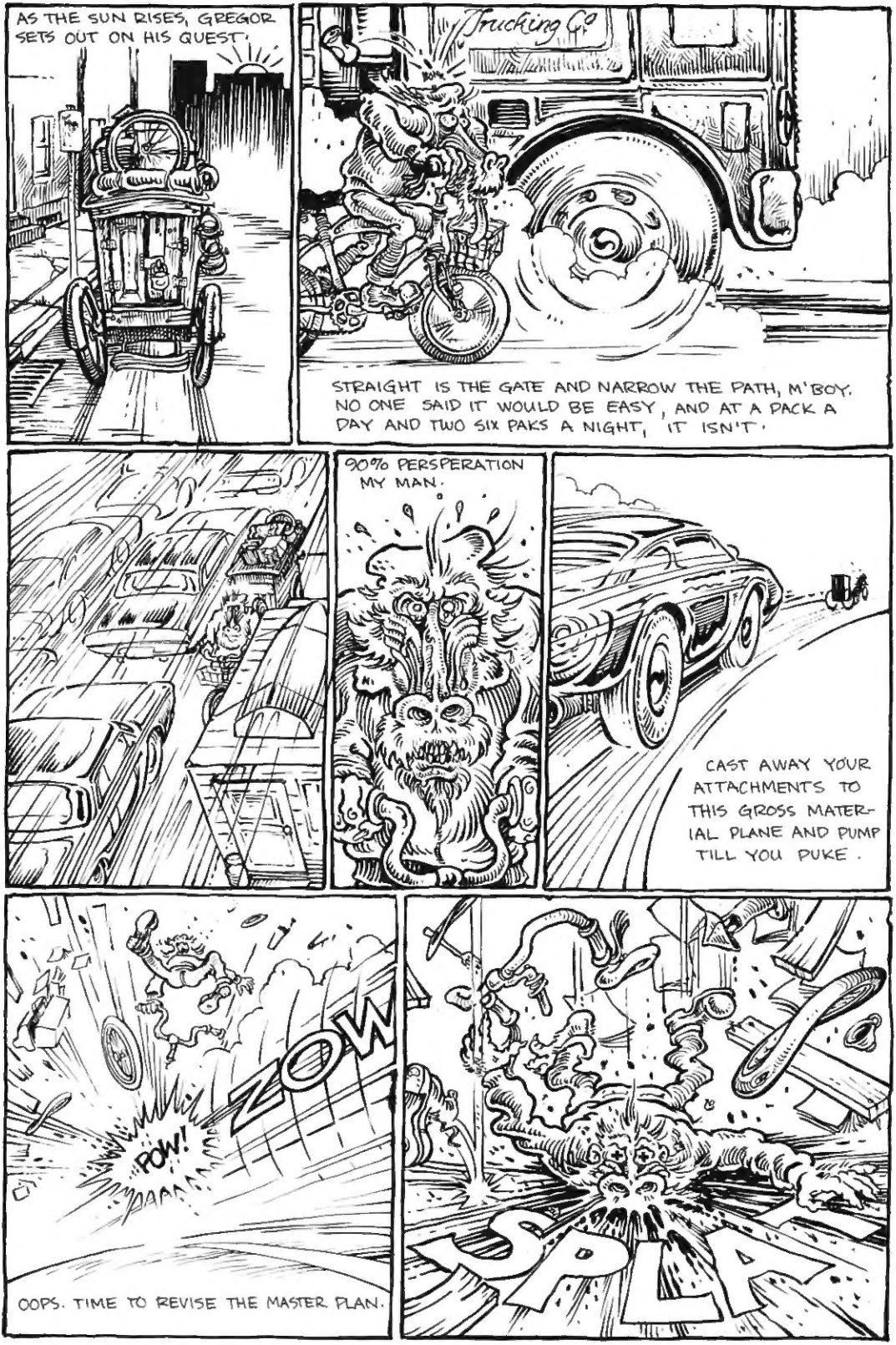


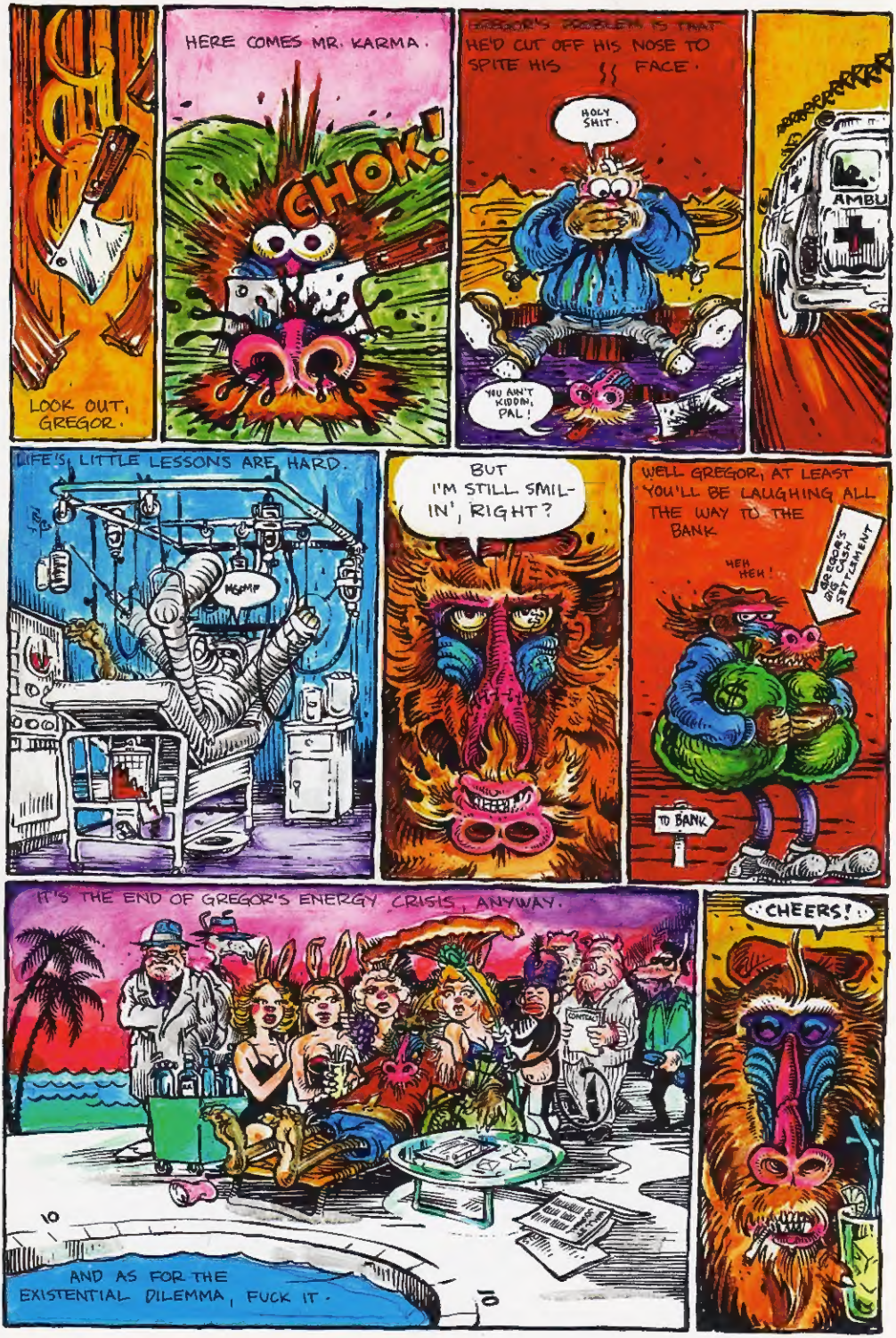
CRANK 'ER UP AND YOUR TROUBLES WILL DISAPPEAR AS YOU HIT THE OPEN ROAD, GREGOR.
START YOU SONOFABITCH MOTHERFUCK START GODDAMIT START START START START
RRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR
GREGOR CHANTS A SOOTHING MANTRA,, BEAST AND MACHINE ARE AS ONE.


SUCCESS. THE ROAD AWAITS.
POKKATPAKKATTAPOKPOKPOK
HONK HONK HONK HONK
BEEP BEEP HONK WONK WONK BEEP BEE
SOON THERE'S TROUBLE. ALWAYS TROUBLE.
OWCH! ARGH! GODDAMMIT!
BAM
WHAT'S THE PROBLEM, GREGOR?
MAYBE SHE JUST NEEDS A LITTLE FINE TUNING.
GODDAM SONOFA NO GOOD FUCKING SONOFABITCH
KRUNK
SQUISH
MINUTE ADJUSTMENTS WITH THE PRECISION INSTRUMENTS
WAITA MINIT
EMPTY!
GASP
GASP
GASP
GASP
SHE WAS RUNNING ON FUMES, GREGOR. SIXTY CENTS WILL BARELY WET THE BOTTOM OF THE TANK, BUT THERE IS A GAS STATION JUST OVER THE NEXT HILL.


LIFE SEEMS AN ENDLESS UPHILL STRUGGLE. JUST REMEMBER THAT PERSEVERANCE FURTHERS, GREGOR.
PUFF PUFF PUFF PUFF HAK!! PUFF PANT
JUST A FEW MORE FEET, BIG G. JUST A FEW
KAK MARGH GASP
.. MORE ..
HA?
FEET!
SPLAT
OOF!
UH OH
HILL
FAST GAS
GREGOR SUDDENLY HAS A BAD FEELING.
CRASH CRUNK CRUNCH SMASH KLUNK
CRASH
TINKLE
NO INSURANCE. NO LICENSE. NO REGISTRATION. TIME TO TAKE UP JOGGING, GREGOR.


A BRISK WALK WILL DO YOU GOOD..
GLOOM..
STIMULATE HEALTHY ATTITUDE.
HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL.
WHY NOT PURSUE YOUR TRUE BUDDHA NATURE, GREGOR? WHY NOT SEEK OUT THE WAY?
HUNGRY IS WHY. COLD AND TIRED AND NO MONEY IS WHY.
GREGOR CAN'T AFFORD TO SEEK GODHEAD.
HE SEEKS BEER MONEY. HE SEEKS EMPTIES STASHED IN THE BASEMENT. HE SEEKS CASH TO SOOTH HIM ... BUT WHAT IS THIS?
A WHEEL .. THE CIRCLE .. SYMBOL OF CONSTANT CHANGE .. OF LIFE ..
DRIVEN BY SUDDEN VISIONARY ZEAL, GREGOR FINDS NEW ENERGY.
BLANG BLAM BLAM BAM BAM BAM
ESCAPE FROM THE HARSH STRUGGLES OF URBAN EXISTENCE, GREGOR. PEDAL YOUR WAY TO PARIDISE. YOUR TICKET TO NIRVANA.


AS THE SUN RISES, GREGOR SETS OUT ON HIS QUEST.
Trucking Co
STRAIGHT IS THE GATE AND NARROW THE PATH, M'BOY. NO ONE SAID IT WOULD BE EASY, AND AT A PACK A DAY AND TWO SIX PAKS A NIGHT, IT ISN'T.
90% PERSPERATION MY MAN.
CAST AWAY YOUR ATTACHMENTS TO THIS GROSS MATERIAL PLANE AND PUMP TILL YOU PUKE.
ZOW
POW!
OOPS. TIME TO REVISE THE MASTER PLAN.
SPLAT


LOOK OUT, GREGOR.
HERE COMES MR. KARMA.
CHOK!
GREGOR'S PROBLEM IS THAT HE'D CUT OFF HIS NOSE TO SPITE HIS FACE.
HOLY SHIT.
YOU AIN'T KIDDIN', PAL!
AMBU
LIFE'S LITTLE LESSONS ARE HARD.
HGMP
BUT I'M STILL SMILIN', RIGHT?
WELL GREGOR, AT LEAST YOU'LL BE LAUGHING ALL THE WAY TO THE BANK
GREGOR'S BIG CASH SETTLEMENT
HEH HEH!
TO BANK
IT'S THE END OF GREGOR'S ENERGY CRISIS, ANYWAY.
AND AS FOR THE EXISTENTIAL DILEMMA, FUCK IT.
CHEERS!